

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	MIN	MAX	
1.1.1984	C	F	C
AMSTERDAM	5	41	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	0	32	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	20	68	73
CHICAGO	-14	7	21
COPENHAGEN	6	43	7
FRANKFURT	3	37	45
GENEVA	2	28	9
Helsinki	4	25	32
HONG KONG	10	50	12
JORDANSBURG	15	59	75
LISBON	6	43	59
LONDON	4	46	11
MADRID	13	50	50
MONTREAL	-10	14	52
NEW YORK	13	9	32
OSLO	3	37	49
PARIS	4	39	48
RIO DE JANEIRO	21	70	88
SAO PAULO	18	66	82
STOCKHOLM	2	35	41
TOKYO	13	50	50
TORONTO	17	1	7
ZURICH	6	43	7
	2	28	9

For the latest weather conditions, contact Swissair.
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Haifa: 2 Sea Road (04) 84655

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy, with heavy rain in the North and central areas.

Yesterday's High/Low	Yesterday's High/Low	Today's High/Low
Jerusalem 92/60	92/60	10/10
Golan 92/60	92/60	10/10
Nahariya 73/38	73/38	16/16
Safed 95/79	95/79	8/8
Haifa Port 77/38	77/38	16/16
Tiberias 71/38	71/38	16/16
Nazareth 90/71	90/71	11/11
Afula 93/56	93/56	16/16
Shimon 95/84	95/84	12/12
Tel Aviv 78/46	78/46	16/16
B-G Airport 93/56	93/56	16/16
Jericho 77/38	77/38	17/17
Gaza 76/10	76/10	18/18
Beer-Sheva 56/17	56/17	17/17
Haifa 30/8	30/8	22/22

Marriage

Hana Reh-Elkin and Asher Sky, married in Washington.

ARRIVALS

Dr. George S. Wise, chancellor of Tel Aviv University, and Mrs. Wise, yesterday in Tel Aviv.

Michael Assaf dies, 87

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Michael Assaf, the dean of journalists in this country, died yesterday evening at 87 in Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv. Two weeks ago, he was hurt when a private car struck him down on a pedestrian crossing. Assaf will be buried in the cemetery.

Assaf was head of the Israel Journalists Association for many years, and was a member of the editorial staff of the *Davar* daily newspaper. He was among the first commentators on Arab affairs here.

PUBLIC BARRED

(Continued from Page One)

last several weeks by the ministry staff have prevented payments to ministry institutions or to organizations whose welfare activities are subsidized by the ministry.

The ministry staff reacted to the attempt to bypass the paralyzed ministry payments department by threatening to halt the activity of a committee set up to exempt certain ministry institutions, such as those for the retarded, from the sanctions.

The ministry staff will meet this week prior to voting on whether to stage a full strike.

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan, who had planned to bring the dispute before the cabinet yesterday, said it would be taken up by the Ministerial Economic Committee tomorrow.

Electric Corporation employees in the southern district yesterday started industrial action.

Five departments closed when their staffs went home following a mass meeting, and some offices were closed to the public. However, the strikers said they had no intention of disrupting the electricity supply.

They want compensation for the erosion in wages and are protesting the cutting of permitted overtime and the laying off of temporary staff.

Six detainees die in W. Berlin fire

BERLIN (AP). — Fire raged through an overcrowded West Berlin detention center yesterday, killing six foreigners awaiting deportation in what some officials believe was a suicide attempt.

Rescuers led the other 36 men occupying the four-cell Lichterfelde detention center to safety, authorities said. One inmate was reported hospitalized in serious condition.

Police said the dead included three men from Sri Lanka, one Lebanese, one Tunisian and one man of undetermined nationality. The nationality of the hospitalized inmate also was unknown.

Police said damage was confined to two cells. The building also houses various police offices.

West Berlin's assistant police president Martin Lippok told a news conference that police complaints about overcrowding at the center had convinced the city to earmark \$148,000 for a new wing for detainees at another prison this year.

But Lippok dismissed a preliminary report by the fire department suggesting that suicide could have been the motive behind the blaze.

HOME NEWS

Economic ministers to air new fees in hospitals

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Committee of Ministers for Economic Affairs will tomorrow discuss the Health Ministry's introduction of the IS700 emergency ward fee, at the request of Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan with the support of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

At yesterday's weekly cabinet meeting, Uzan sought to have the new fee debated, charging that Health Minister Eliezer Shostak had no right to impose it arbitrarily.

However, it was too late for a proper discussion, so Shamir said that Uzan's request was weighty enough to be debated without

delay, Shamir said, however, the cabinet could not revoke Shostak's decision pending the committee's discussion.

While the Health Ministry last Friday sent instructions to all the hospitals in the country on collecting the new fees, only some government hospitals and several public hospitals, such as Hadassah in Jerusalem, have actually started taking money.

Kupat Holim Clalit has so far resisted collecting the fees in its hospital system. But a meeting last night between senior Health Ministry officials and Kupat Holim chairman Prof. Haim Doron was

"constructive and to the point," *The Jerusalem Post* has learned. Another meeting on the issue is scheduled to be held today.

The first day of collecting the emergency room fee and the IS100 fee for those visiting outpatient departments in government hospitals went off smoothly, with some details needing to be ironed out, according to Itim reports from around the country. The Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer collected the fees, but patients who did not have the money were not turned away.

At the Wolfson Hospital in Holon, hospital director Dr. Moshe

Cordova said the fees had not been collected because the staff has not been organized to do the job efficiently. He said that by Wednesday, everything would run smoothly.

In Ashkelon, some of the patients returned home because they refused to pay. No one was turned away for lack of money, but it is learned that the results of the examinations will not be made available to a patient until he pays.

In Nahariya, too, the government hospital did not collect the fees. Hospital director Dr. Elitzur Hazani told Itim he does not have the manpower to collect the money, and he does not know when he will get it.

Beirut daily: Jumblatt willing to meet Jemayel

Post-Mideast Affairs Reporter and agencies

Druse leader Walid Jumblatt has contacted Lebanese President Amin Jemayel to discuss the possibility of an early meeting, the well-informed Beirut daily *an-Nahar* reported yesterday.

The newspaper report follows a meeting in Amman late last week between Jumblatt and two Lebanese emissaries, the ambassador to Switzerland, Johnny Abdo, and the Lebanese Army intelligence chief, Col. Simon Kassas.

According to informed sources in Beirut, Abdo and Kassas are working on the final details of a plan to consolidate the existing truce and to separate Druse, Shiite and Christian combatants in and around Beirut.

According to these sources, a meeting is expected to be held in Damascus this week at which the plan will be discussed.

Under the plan the army, which is pledged to extend its area of authority at every opportunity, would play a greater role in areas south of the capital.

Over Christmas the army took control of two positions evacuated by French troops in the four-nation peace force in Beirut, Jemayel has said he hopes the Lebanese can

replace the multinational troops completely "in the near future."

In South Lebanon too, local people have been calling for Lebanese troops to replace the Israelis.

The latest moves indicate some progress towards ending hostilities in Lebanon — an essential first step to any possible resumption of the stalled national reconciliation talks in Geneva.

In his New Year's address to his staff yesterday, Jemayel reflected the growing optimism by holding out the hope that Lebanon is about to embark on "many important steps to bring back stability and security to our country."

Meanwhile, Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini has formally notified Jemayel that Italy will replace its current contingent of 2,100 reservists with 1,000 army regulars, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

Spadolini, who met with Jemayel on Friday night, assured the president that the cut would not affect Italy's commitment to contribute to the force "until the Lebanon problem is solved," the radio said.

In Rome, Defence Ministry officials said they received no official confirmation of Spadolini's reported statement.

BUDGET PLAN

(Continued from Page One)

implications of the budget cuts were so delicate and problematic that they insisted on being personally involved in all significant cuts. They said that discussions on the cuts between Treasury officials and their own officials should be kept to the minimum.

Shostak said: "The moment we get down to brass tacks I want all the civil servants out of the room. They are not going to do any deciding for me this year. It's too important."

Moda' had proposed that instead of approving a budget framework, the cabinet should decide on a series of budget targets. But this proposal was not accepted. Moda' also proposed that a small number of ministers should be charged with the preparation of the budget.

The ministerial committee is due to meet in the middle of the week, possibly tomorrow, to start its deliberations. At the same time, the Treasury will start preparing a document detailing its policies regarding the budget, the capital market and currency questions.

Industry and Commerce Minister Gideon Patt said that the Treasury must take great care not to curb regular bank credits in such a manner that a grey or a black credit market was created.

He said the finance minister must give the public another speedy and convincing assurance that Patam foreign currency deposits would remain on the same terms as at present.

Uzan said he was voting against the overall budget figure because he did not want his hands to be tied later on, in the Ministers' Committee, when proposals for cuts in his ministry might be raised which he could not possibly accept. By then, his objections would be gagged, with the reminder that he had already accepted the overall figure.

Uzan complained that the erosion in the low-income sectors had to be corrected at once, with significant financial aid to them. He warned that the new Cohen-Organ policy had piled fresh damage on the damage caused by his predecessors. Children's allowances today were worth only half of the rate fixed for them, in real money terms, in 1975 by the Ben-Shahar income tax reform committee.

Kalkilya man held in Dabi murder

NETANYA (Itim). — A Kalkilya resident, Nazeel Salah, has been detained by order of the Netanyahu Magistrates Court on suspicion of connection with the murder of Orly Dabi, 19, of Netanya in November.

Salah, 23, was arrested in the middle of last week after a man told police that at 10:30 p.m. on a November 24, he saw the figure of a woman struggling with several men sitting inside a vehicle parked at the side of the road near Moshav Udim.

The witness noted down the licence plate number and reported it to the police, who then picked up Salah. The witness also identified Salah in an identification parade.

Dabi, a soldier, disappeared on the evening of November 15 while on the way home from Haifa. Her body was discovered on December 14 near Netanya, several kilometres north of where the car was parked.

Kessar's nomination will be discussed

Jerusalem Post Staff

MK Avraham Katz-Oz yesterday wrote opposition leader Shimon Peres, asking to discuss the nomination of Histadrut Trades Union Department head Israel Kessar as the Labour Party's candidate for secretary-general of the Histadrut, at this week's meeting of the party executive.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel concludes his period of office in another year and a half, and he has already picked Kessar as his successor.

BRIEFING. — Seventeen families from South Africa and England, considering immigration and visiting Israel within the framework of the "Tnuat Aliya" organization, were briefed on the fast-changing Israel economy last week.

Treasury promises to update income tax credits today

By AVI TEMKIN and JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The Treasury yesterday announced that today it would adjust the income tax credit points and the child allowances by 17.9 per cent, as agreed upon with the Histadrut Labour Federation last month.

The adjustment was supposed to take place on December 25, coinciding with the payment of the 17.9 per cent advance on the January cost of living allowance. But it was not executed due to what the Treasury's spokesman described as a "misunderstanding."

The Treasury yesterday said that Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Organ had instructed ministry Director-General Emmanuel Sharon to update the credit points and allowances.

Complaints about the Treasury's failure to act were heard in the cabinet meeting yesterday, when Deputy Prime Minister David Levy

said angrily that the Treasury did not respect signed agreements and had thereby undermined its credibility.

The Histadrut had been complaining for a week that the government failed to honour the undertaking made in a letter signed by the former Treasury director-general Ezra Sadan, which said the minister would "see to it" that the income tax brackets, tax credit points and children allowances are updated.

That undertaking removed the last hurdle to concluding the agreement whereby the Co-L advance was given. But last week the Treasury updated only the income tax brackets.

Addressing the Histadrut Central Committee yesterday, Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel said the Treasury's conduct "bordered on deceit." The labour federation never imagined that the Finance Ministry would resort to methods which are not acceptable "even in an open-air market," he added.

'Policeman' allegedly kicks woman, assaults neighbour

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A man who claimed to be a police officer yesterday evening allegedly brutally kicked a resident of Herzliya Pituah who was lying on the floor in a stairway resisting detention. He then demanded information from a neighbour, who insisted the man first produce identification and the "plainclothesman" twisted his arm and kicked him too, *The Jerusalem Post* was told.

The spokesman for the Tel Aviv District police, Adi Gonen, said last night he was not aware of the incident. He promised a thorough investigation.

Estelle Bornstein of 142 Wingate in Herzliya Pituah told *The Post* the incident occurred at 6:30 p.m. after

a long dispute between Nava Milo and another neighbour.

Bornstein said she saw Milo, in her mid-30s, lying on the floor in the stairway as the "plainclothesman" kept kicking her kidneys and crotch. Two other "plainclothesmen" stood nearby, but did not intervene, Bornstein added.

The "officer" then went to Bornstein's door to collect evidence. Her husband, Hyman Bornstein, 70, insisted the man identify himself first — but the "officer" twisted the grey-haired man's hand and kicked him.

The "plainclothesmen" detained Milo. Mrs. Bornstein said the "officer" got into a white unmarked car and told her husband: "I'll be back to get you."

Four die in road accidents

Four persons were killed and 31 persons were injured in four serious road accidents throughout the country yesterday.

At 5:30 in the morning yesterday on the road between the Megiddo junction and Kibbutz Mishmar Haemek, two persons were killed and five were injured — all residents of Kfar Daburiya — when a truck hit the rear of another truck that was stopped due to a technical problem. The dead are Ziad Hased Masalah, 19, and Husah Yasser Masalah, 17. Police are investigating the accident.

In an accident yesterday afternoon, 25 people were injured, two of them seriously, in a collision between a bus and a truck in Pardes Hanna.

The southbound truck, driven by a Ramle resident, went through a stop sign and collided with an Egged bus coming from the direction of Tel Aviv. Twenty-three of the passengers on the bus were slightly injured. A five-year-old boy on the bus was seriously injured, as was the driver of the truck.

In Ashdod yesterday, a two-year-

old boy, Shai Danoch, of Ashdod was killed and his father Benjamin, 39, was severely injured when their car collided with a truck at the Ashdod junction on the coastal highway.

A resident of East Jerusalem, Abu el-Haji Ahmad, 40, was killed yesterday near Shuafat when the car he was driving was hit by a car that had been forced across a traffic divider as a result of a collision with another car. (Itim) (See related story, page 3.)

Blast in Rome near El Al office

ROME (AP). — A bomb that exploded New Year's Eve outside the downtown office of El Al destroyed several windows but injured no one, police said yesterday.

"So far, no group has claimed responsibility for the bombing," the police spokesman said in a telephone interview.

The spokesman said that the bomb consisted of 500 grams of blasting powder material. No arrests were reported.

נפלה עשרת ראשנו
We announce the passing of
Harav
ZVI KOENIGSBERG ז"ל
son of Rev Haim Shaul Hachohen Koenigsberg
The funeral took place yesterday.
Shiva at 6/A Mevo Timna, Rainat Eshkol, Jerusalem.
Koenigsberg, Stermann and Shaul families

The unveiling of the tombstone of our beloved father
BENZIMAN FELDMAN ז"ל
Treasurer of Yeshivat Torah Vedaat for over 30 years, will take place on Tuesday, January 3, 1984 at 10 a.m. at the Har Hama'arhot cemetery, Jerusalem. Transport from 15 Rehov Shmuel Hanagid at 9:30 a.m.
Rabbi M. Feldman
Mr. Y. Feldman
Mrs. E. Rothenberg

Emunah — National Religious Women's Org. in Israel extends heartfelt condolences to
MICHAEL and SALLY BERGER
on the untimely death of their beloved son
JOSSI ז"ל
המקום יתום אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים



Placards reading "Likud: Another step and the nation is on welfare" and "The street gangs are sinking in debt" left outside a social welfare office in Jerusalem yesterday after police broke up attempts by slum neighbourhood activists to blockade several offices in the city in a protest against the government's economic policies. (Eliahu Hurani)

Outrage over murder of 3 Syrian Jews

Jerusalem Post Staff

The cabinet yesterday expressed "shock and outrage" at the "brutal murder" in Aleppo, Syria, of a pregnant Jewish woman and her two young children.

In a statement read after the weekly meeting, the cabinet appealed to "enlightened opinion" the world over to bring pressure to bear on Syria to allow those Jews who wish to leave the country.

News of the deaths of Lilly Abadi, 39, and her four-year-old daughter and seven-year-old son reached the Abadi family in New York through a telephone call from Abadi's husband Victor in Aleppo, said

Menahem Yedid, head of the Public Council for the Salvation of Jews in Arab Lands.

He said the background for the murders "was undoubtedly the tensions within Syria which always claim Jewish victims because we're the easiest target."

Yedid appealed to the Syrian government to free the estimated 4,500 Syrian Jews who live mostly in Damascus. He said Syrian Jews who go abroad have to leave behind their families and monetary collateral.

An Israel daily reported recently that the Abadis were stabbed to death and their bodies were then shot and abused.

Jerusalem zealots sentenced to prison terms, heavily fined

The Jerusalem Magistrates Court yesterday gave prison terms and heavy fines to eight out of 12 ultra-Orthodox zealots recently convicted of violent acts during a riot last July in Jerusalem's Sabbath Square.

Judge Uzi Sivan called that day of violent protests against archaeological excavations in Jerusalem's Old City "one of the blackest and most difficult days to face Jerusalem." Accordingly, he said, "the courts must punish the rioters with all the severity of the law."

Sivan first sentenced Golda Minsberg, convicted of obstructing a policeman in the performance of his duty and attempting to assault him, to a suspended jail term of four months, in effect for three years, and fined her IS75,000. Sivan told her that her conduct "belied the image of the Jewish wife and mother, which we have learned to know and love."

Eliezer Sofer, convicted of stopping policemen, was sentenced to six months in prison, plus one year suspended, and fined IS100,000. Haim Kremer was sentenced to three-and-a-half months in jail, plus six months suspended, and fined IS100,000.

Four others — Nahman Sternfeld, Yitzhak Orlander, Yohanan Zinwert and Ya'acov Zilber — were sentenced to three-

and-a-half months in prison; plus six months suspended, and fined IS75,000 each. Aharon Alimanovitz was sentenced to two months in jail, plus six months suspended, and fined IS75,000.

Each of the convicted was required to pay IS10,000 in court costs. The judge also barred them from leaving the country and ordered them to deposit their passports with police. They must each report to a police station once a day, until they begin serving their sentences.

Judge Sivan allowed 45 days for appeals to be filed before the sentences must be carried out. He also allowed the convicted to pay their fines in two instalments. Sentence is to be passed on the remaining four next month. (Itim)

Michael Eilan adds:

A spokesman for the ultra-Orthodox Natorei Karta said last night that the community would "demonstrate in the streets" against the sentences. Sources in Natorei Karta said the community is considering seeking help from ultra-Orthodox communities abroad in applying pressure to ease the sentences.

The community is most perturbed at the length of the jail terms imposed, said the source, since any sentence over three months must be served in prison, and not on a day-prisoner basis.

To our friend
Victor Stark
We share your grief on the death of your wife
CAMILLA STARK ז"ל
The managements of:
Koortrade Ltd.,
Koortrade-Domestic Trade Division
Solcoor Marketing and Purchasing Co. Ltd.

My beloved sister
IRENE KRON
widow of Heinz Kron, adored aunt of
Joan and Susan
passed away on December 31, 1983.
The funeral will take place today,
Monday, January 2, 1984 at 10:45 a.m.
at Kfar Samir Cemetery, Haifa.
Lotte Haas

Tel Aviv planner tells 'The Post':

Ha'aretz Museum didn't get okay for buildings

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV — The district planning and building committee will take legal action against the Tel Aviv municipality for any illegal building begun in the municipal Ha'aretz Museum during the past year and a half, a member of the committee, Dov Radusher told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Commenting on *The Post's* report last Friday of massive illegal construction work on museum grounds, Radusher said the district committee has neither approved the construction plans nor issued building permits for them.

Radusher says if the museum has been building without a permit, the committee would demand that it cease and would take legal action against the city.

Some 18 months ago, museum director Rehavam Ze'evi and City Engineer Shmuel Penn presented a proposed master building plan for the museum, Radusher said.

"We agreed that within a short time this plan would be completed and transferred from the local planning and building committee to the district committee for approval," Radusher said. "But since then I have heard nothing of this plan and

assumed the city had no funds to finance it."

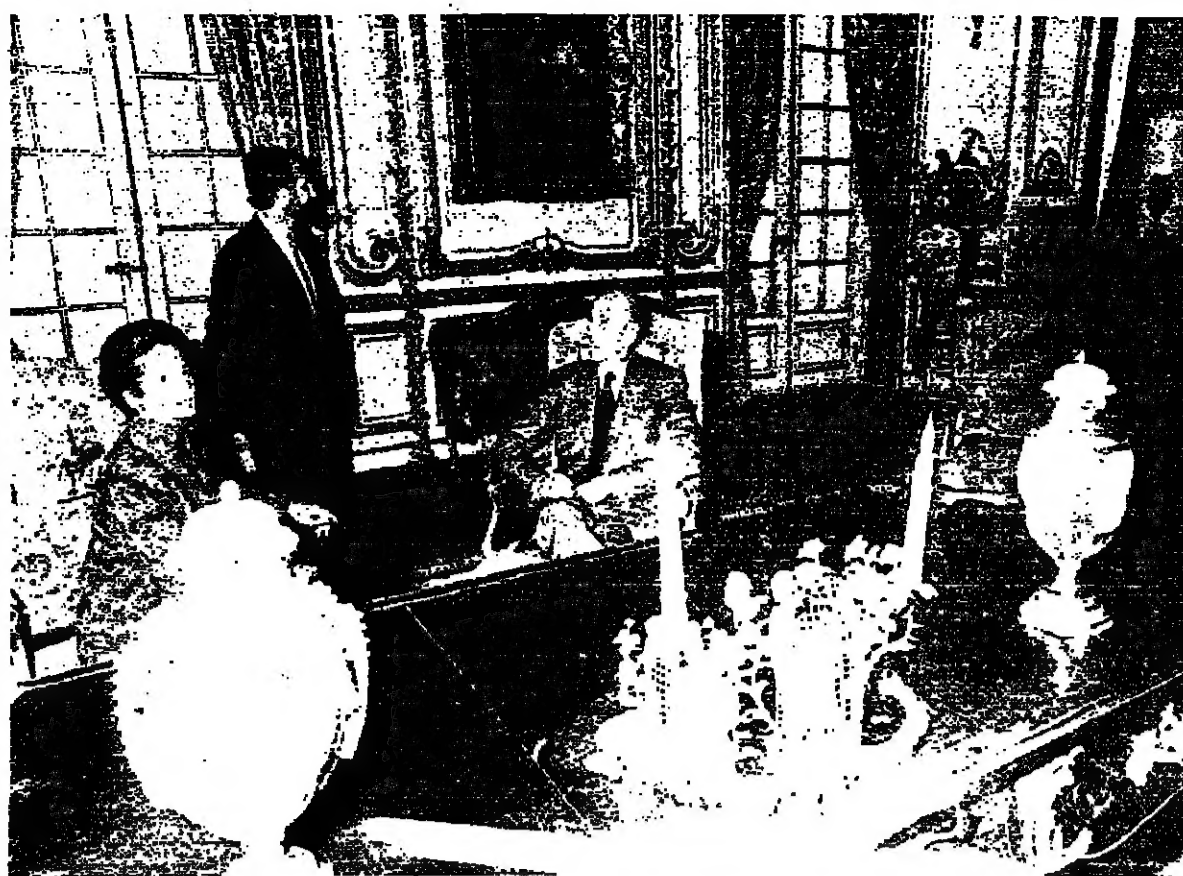
During the past year and a half, large-scale construction work has been going on at the Ha'aretz Museum. It consists of at least eight new buildings, including an amphitheatre, an entrance complex, two pavilions, a security structure and restrooms. This city has budgeted \$600 million for the project.

Asked last week for their comment on these findings, Penn told *The Post* that "as far as he remembers" no building permits were issued. But engineering administration head Yitzhak Caspi said last week he had checked the matter and found the construction was licensed. Ze'evi and his spokeswoman have refused to talk to *The Post*.

It was learned that Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat visited the museum grounds on Friday with Ze'evi.

MK Mordechai Virshupski (Shinui) told *The Post* he will demand that construction at the museum be halted if it is illegal.

Virshupski, who is a member of the city council opposition, will demand an explanation from Lahat at the council's meeting next week.



Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, former president of France (right) and his wife Anne sit in the Israel Museum's French period room, as museum director Martin Weyl describes the gift from the Rothschild family.

'Good Israelis' help robbed tourists to stay

EILAT (Itim). — A Norwegian couple and their five children, whose car and belongings were stolen shortly after arriving in the country, have decided to remain for the length of their scheduled stay after being helped by a group of friendly Israelis.

Marty Raunolima, 42, his wife Marianne, 40, and their children, ranging in age from one year to 19, were staying at the Ashkelon National Park last week when their minibus was stolen. It contained all their belongings, including some \$3,500 in cash, thousands more in travellers' cheques, clothes, their passports and return tickets, and a movie camera worth some \$20,000.

The Raunolimas continued to Ein Gedi, intending to visit briefly before returning to Norway. However,

when Ein Gedi guest house manager Amihai Elbar heard their story, he immediately decided to organize help and to persuade them to stay.

Eldad offered them a free stay at Ein Gedi, then contacted the United Kibbutz Movement's guest house association. This persuaded the Almog Yam Hotel in Eilat to host the family free for the rest of their stay. An Eilat car-rental firm, EuropaCar, has supplied the Raunolimas with free use of a minibus.

The family has decided to stay until January 30, as planned. The Raunolimas have strong ties with Israel and are on their fifth visit. Marty Raunolima's father has been recognized as a Righteous Gentile for saving Jews from the Nazis.

Pilots suspected of smuggling

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Several pilots of light aircraft have been arrested in the course of a Treasury investigation of suspected smuggling of electronics goods from Cyprus. Treasury officials believe the pilots are part of an extensive smuggling network, operated by three Tel Aviv brothers who were arrested late last week.

Armand, Pinhas and Ya'acov Cohen, all of Bat Yam, yesterday were remanded on suspicion of smuggling and dealing in millions of shekels worth of video cassette recorders and other electronic goods. The Tel Aviv District Court ordered Armand and Ya'acov Cohen held for six days and Pinhas

Cohen for three. Police arrested each of the brothers on separate occasions last week, and seized large quantities of video and other electronic equipment and foreign-made cigarettes. None of the brothers could present valid certification for any of the goods, police said.

Treasury investigators suspect the brothers, each of whom owns an electronics goods stall on Tel Aviv's Rehov Yehuda Halevy, own either a part or full share of the suspected pilots' planes. The investigators say the suspected smuggling network is widespread and has been bringing contraband from Cyprus frequently and for a long time.

Boy held for vandalism in school

REHOVOT (Itim). — A 13-year-old schoolboy in Rehovot has confessed to heading a gang of pupils who committed acts of vandalism on the premises of the junior high school during the past three weekends, police reported yesterday. The boy has been arrested and is to be brought before a juvenile court magistrate within the next 48 hours.

Three weeks ago, the boys destroyed a row of young trees planted outside the school and broke their branches. Two weeks ago, they broke into the school laboratory and destroyed equip-

ment said valued at tens of thousands of shekels. Last Saturday, they smashed 40 windowpanes in the school, attempted to set afire the nurse's room where curtains were burned and bookshelves scorched.

Explaining why he had done this, the boy said: "I hate the school. The teacher tries to shame me by asking me hard questions so that the children will laugh at me. At home, my mother shouts at me all the time." Several months ago, the boy ran away from home and was found in Eilat after a day's search.

3 Bar-Ilan students split journalism award

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The Foreign Press Association has awarded its first scholarship honouring the late correspondent Dial Torgerson to three journalism students at Bar-Ilan University, said association president Gideon Bareli.

Torgerson, who was killed in June at the age of 55 in a guerrilla ambush along the Honduras-Nicaragua border, was *The Los Angeles Times*

correspondent in Israel until January, 1981.

The award, presented in a recent ceremony at the university, was divided among three students: Tamar Hermon, Shmuel Elgrabbi and Avraham Ben-Dayana. Norman Kempster, the current *Los Angeles Times* correspondent in Israel, and Lazar Biernako, representing the association, took part in the ceremony.

Suspicious package

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Police sappers were summoned to a school in al-Azariya in East Jerusalem after teachers discovered a suspicious package attached to the door of a classroom.

Pupils and staff were evacuated while the sappers demolished the package with a small charge. The package turned out to be harmless.

Four soldiers wounded by stray bullets

KIRYAT SHMONA (Itim). — Four Israel Defence Forces soldiers were wounded yesterday afternoon by a number of rounds that escaped from the automatic rifle of a soldier while they were waiting for a ride at the military hitchhiking station near the Givon factory here. Two of the soldiers were hurt in the legs. After receiving first aid, they were taken to the Safad Hospital.

The soldier whose rifle went off is being held for questioning by the military police.

Conference today on destroyed communities

LOHAMEI HAGETA'OT (Itim). — A conference of societies of persons who lived in places in Poland destroyed during World War II will meet today in this kibbutz in Western Galilee.

Binyamin Anolik, of the kibbutz secretariat told Itim he expects about 300 persons to attend.



Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy yesterday speaks to soldiers during a training exercise on the Golan Heights. (IDF photo)

Another Arab may be beatified

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Only a few months after the beatification in Rome of a local Arab, the Vatican is considering the case of another Palestinian.

Brother Simon Scragg, a Salesian friar, was born in Nazareth in 1878 and died in 1943 at the monastery of Beit Gemal, near Beit Shemesh, where he spent the major part of his life.

The process leading to beatification, which is a step prior to achiev-

ing sainthood, was begun in 1966. After a special ceremony last month in the church of the Latin Patriarchate, the information was forwarded to the special commission at the Vatican.

A similar procedure preceded the beatification in November of Mariam Baouardy, who was born in 1846 in Ibbilin in Galilee and who died 33 years later in Bethlehem.

There has been no local saint from the Holy Land since the Crusades.

NIGERIA

(Continued from Page One)

hour intervals yesterday morning, interspersed with music.

Buhari said Nigeria's foreign policy would be dynamic and realistic with Africa continuing to be the centrepiece. He said the country would honour all treaties signed by the previous government.

He said the Supreme Military Council, which will be the top policy-making body in Nigeria, would do its best "to settle genuine payments to which the government is committed."

Nigeria has run up a near \$4 billion foreign debt following a more than 50 per cent drop in oil revenues since 1982. Buhari's reference to "genuine" payments could mean that loans taken out by the ousted civilian government, which the military deems questionable, might not be paid.

Buhari promised that hospitals which have been without drugs for months will be provided with supplies immediately. In view of the drought which has affected most of Nigeria, he said food would also be imported to supplement shortages from the last harvest.

Buhari said his government would not tolerate forgery, fraud, embezzlement, misuse or abuse of office, illegal dealings in foreign exchange or smuggling. Corrupt officials and their agents will be "brought to book," he said.

Arafat foes want to attend Tunis meet

AMMAN (Reuters). — Four PLO Executive Committee members, who had opposed chairman Yasser Arafat, are seeking his permission to attend a meeting in Tunis, Palestine Liberation Organization sources here said yesterday.

The sources named them as Abdul-Muhsen Abu Meizar, an independent; Ahmed al-Yamani of the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP); Yasser Abed Rabbo of the Popular Democratic Front for the Libera-

tion of Palestine (PDFLP), and Mohammed Khalifa of the Syrian-backed Sa'iqa.

The sources did not say why the four wanted to attend the meeting, which they had planned to boycott in protest against Arafat's talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak.

Arafat, now in Tunis, is convening the central committee of his Fatah group, the largest PLO faction, to seek support for his policies. He is expected to chair an Executive Committee meeting later.

SCALES. — A fruit and vegetable pedlar in Tel Aviv's Carmel Market, Suda Safian, 24, of Gaza yesterday appeared in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court on suspicion of using false scales. He was released on \$10,000 bail.

El Al now flies direct from Eilat to Zurich

Jerusalem Post Reporter

El Al yesterday inaugurated a direct flight from Eilat to Zurich. Zurich-bound passengers previously had to change planes at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Yesterday's flight by a Boeing-737 carried vacationers who had come here for Christmas and New Year's.



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427 killed, 20,000 injured on the roads in 1983

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Although 1983 witnessed about a 10-per-cent increase in traffic accidents in comparison to 1982, this is not regarded as considerable because there were about 80,000 more cars on the roads.

Moshe Amirav, chairman of the Road Safety Authority, also told a press conference that 1982 had been a low year for traffic accidents. Although there was no research into the reason, he said it was probably due to the war in Lebanon, with fewer drivers on the road and motorists more careful.

The year 1983 saw 427 persons killed in traffic accidents, compared to 385 killed in 1982 and 436 killed in 1981. Before the Road Safety Authority was established four years ago, average annual fatalities totalled 620. Also there were about 40 per cent fewer automobiles on the roads, he said.

Amirav claims that the drop in road accidents during the last four

years is unique. He said Israel is 11th out of 19 developed countries in accidents per million kilometres driven.

In 1983 there were 13,900 traffic accidents in which 20,000 persons were injured, about 3,500 of them seriously. Of this, 4,625 were pedestrians. Pedestrians killed totalled 196, or about 46 per cent of the road fatalities.

Amirav said that the forming of a substantial traffic police could further reduce the number of road accidents, as well as enforcing the traffic laws better.

Amirav fears that the authority and road safety projects will have their budgets considerably slashed. This could be a setback in the battle against road accidents, he said.

He proposes that the sums for this purpose can be made available by instituting a specific road safety tax on the purchase of cars, creating toll roads, or adding a 5 per cent road safety tax on the purchase of fuel.

Plenty of work for jobless in tourism

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The miners from the Timna copper mines, the closure of which sparked off demonstrations in Eilat last week, can find work in the town's hotels, according to the Tourism Ministry.

The ministry spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that some 200 miners, who had trouble finding new jobs, could take special courses training them for hotel work. According to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, hundreds of foreign workers employed in hotels in Eilat and at the Dead Sea could be replaced by unemployed Israelis.

The ministry also announced yesterday that it is urgently seeking 2,000 hotel workers for jobs in maintenance, cleaning, waiting on tables, and as receptionists. The greatest need is in Tiberias and Jerusalem. Courses, given in cooperation with the Labour Ministry, are to begin soon for jobs that will become available in March.

A special publicity campaign is being launched to find the workers among demobilized soldiers, immigrants and at labour exchanges. According to the Tourism Ministry, some 25,000 jobs will become available in the hotel business within the next three years.

Architect jailed for fraud and forgery

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Architect Avraham Ziv-Av, 46, of Ramat Aviv was yesterday sent to jail for three months, given a 15-month suspended sentence and fined \$20,000 for forging a document in order to commit fraud and for submitting a false statement to the authorities.

According to the charge sheet, Ziv-Av designed a dwelling in 1976 for one Yoel Shabtai to be built in Hofit, near Kfar Witkin. But the Israel Lands Authority did not approve the building request, because Shabtai refused to meet its land rental conditions.

Ziv-Av was found guilty of then going to the ILA offices in Derech Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv, and deceitfully getting from a clerk the rubber stamp used in approving building plans. He stamped the building plans for Shabtai's house and forged the signature of the clerk, Ruth Cahana. In addition, he had a rubber stamp company make him a copy of the "ILA Tel Aviv and Central District" stamp which he affixed to the plans.

In January 1977, Ziv-Av submitted these building plans with the faked approvals to the responsible authority who issued a building licence in February.

Accused murderers barred from conferring

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The district court yesterday rejected a request by the defence attorneys of accused murderers Herzl Avitan and Ya'acov Shemesh to meet with their clients together before presenting their case.

Avitan and Shemesh are on trial for the murders of Ramle detention centre warden Ronnie Nitzan in December 1981 and Keren Or jewelry factory guard David Oshri in January 1982. This case for the defence was due to be heard yesterday morning, but was postponed due to their attorneys' request.

Tel Aviv District Court Judges

Yehoshua Gross, Moshe Goldberg and Yosef Hasson denied the request, ruling that the court has no authority to force the Ramle Prison administration to enable both accused and their attorneys to meet together.

The request was firmly opposed by district attorney Penina Dvorin, who argued that it was unheard of that witnesses would seek to coordinate their testimony in advance. She expressed amazement that defence attorneys David Yiftah and Uriel Einav would make such a request.

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Polish price hikes may be moderated, leaders indicate

WARSAW (AP). — Poland's leaders have signalled a possible reduction in unpopular price hikes, expected in the new year but now said to be delayed until at least February.

The Politburo said in a weekend communiqué that the opposition of new official trade unions formed to replace Solidarity and other banned unions would be taken into consideration "in work on a modified concept of price rises" in the new year.

At the same time, an official at the office of Minister of Prices Zdzisław Krasinski said the increases would be delayed at least until February, in a move that seemed to show official nervousness over public reaction.

The price hikes have evoked grumbling and outright opposition from underground leaders of Solidarity. The chiefs of new official unions formed after Solidarity was outlawed also have objected. Huge price rises went unopposed in February 1982, the strict, early

days of martial law. But in 1980, they sparked nationwide strikes that spawned Solidarity, and scores of workers were killed in riots over price rises in December 1970.

Price hike protests in 1976 forced the then party chief Edward Gierek to roll back the increases, leaving prices frozen from 1970 to 1980.

The government now argues that the rises are needed to match new prices paid farmers for their goods.

The increases range from virtually nothing for cottage cheese and bacon, to a 37 to 50 per cent hike for bread.

Worms on the march

DAR ES SALAAM (Reuters). — Millions of grain-eating worms are on the march in several parts of Tanzania devouring everything in their path, the newspaper *Mzalendo* reported yesterday.

It said the army worms, a type of caterpillar, were munching sorghum, millet and maize crops in central, coastal and northern regions of the country.

TASS: Gromyko-Shultz talks shouldn't raise false hopes

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Union has confirmed that Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko will meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz this month, but warned the West that this does not mean a lessening of world tension or warming of relations between the superpowers.

Accusing Washington of "instilling complacency in people," the official news agency TASS late Saturday said that the U.S. government spreads "optimistic statements" designed to fool the Western public that "things are going as if nothing

has happened."

This dismissal of the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, which TASS called "an extremely dangerous step against the cause of peace," was reaffirmed by the U.S. State Department's "publicity statement" announcing the planned meeting between Shultz and Gromyko in Stockholm on January 18, TASS said.

"A State Department spokesman told a press conference that Washington still hoped for the return of the Russians to the

negotiating table," the news agency noted.

"It goes without saying that neither the Stockholm conference nor bilateral contacts can substitute for the Geneva talks, which were disrupted through the fault of the Reagan administration."

Yesterday Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov reiterated in an interview that the Soviet Union would resume the negotiations only if new U.S. nuclear missiles are withdrawn from Western Europe.

Both the TASS commentary and

Tikhonov's interview appeared designed to warn the West that it will not easily coax Moscow back to negotiating limits on nuclear weapons in Europe.

In Vienna on November 24, a statement issued in the name of President Yuri Andropov said the Soviet Union would station more missiles on its own soil, in Eastern Europe and off the shores of the U.S. in retaliation for NATO's deployment of the first of 572 cruise and Pershing-2 missiles it plans to install by 1988.

Pershing, cruise missiles operational in Europe today

LONDON (Reuters). — The Western alliance started the New Year yesterday with U.S. Pershing-2 missiles operational in West Germany and slower, radar-eluding Cruise missiles deployed in Britain, defence officials said here.

Deployment will take place by today as scheduled under a five-year plan agreed by NATO in 1979 to modernize its medium-range nuclear arsenal to counter a Soviet buildup of triple-warhead SS-20 missiles, officials in London and Bonn said.

It follows sustained but unsuccessful anti-nuclear demonstrations this year and the failure of U.S.-Soviet talks on limiting intermediate-range nuclear forces in Europe, which ended with a Soviet walkout last month.

A total of 572 U.S. missiles will be based in five countries under the NATO plan, starting with a first

wave of nine Pershing-2s in West Germany and 16 cruises in Britain and Italy.

Italian officials said Italy's first cruises would be deployed at their base at Comiso, Sicily, next spring in line with the NATO timetable.

In London last week, women protesters said they have broken into at least five U.S. and British nuclear installations since Christmas, including the base for cruise missiles. They threatened a long-term programme to "destabilize" security.

"We are calling on women everywhere to attack their local bases," said Jane Bennett, 59, one of about 30 women living at a two-year-old "peace camp" outside the U.S. Greenham Common air base 80km west of London. "We want them to cut the fences and destabilize the whole security network," she said. (Reuters, AP)

El Salvador guerrillas kill 41 in attack on army

EL PARAISO (AP). — Leftist guerrillas in El Salvador killed two army colonels and at least 39 other soldiers in the biggest assault on a fixed army position in the history of the war, U.S. and rebel sources said Saturday.

Guerrillas interviewed near the army's 4th infantry brigade showed reporters some of the 135 army troops they claimed they captured during the assault on the brigade at El Paraiso, 58 kilometres north of the capital.

"We consider this a great success,"

said a rebel commander who identified himself only as Felipe. "This was a modern army base, a gringo-style (Western-style) fortress."

He said 15 guerrillas were killed. The 4th brigade, built in 1981 with the aid of U.S. military advisers helping the army in its four-year-old struggle against the rebels, is one of six brigade bases in the country.

It was the first time since the war began in October 1979 that one of the 1,200 to 1,500-man brigades had been overrun by the rebels.

Nakasone seeks to revive Japan's voice on world scene

TOKYO (AP). — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said on Saturday that nuclear disarmament and trade protectionism will be two of the world's most compelling issues of 1984.

Japan's 65-year-old leader, in a New Year's Day news conference, also disclosed that he hopes to tour Europe this year after attending the summit of industrialized nations in London. He also said he would like to visit Oceania and other parts of Asia, including the Middle East, during the year.

Japan, he said, "must make positive contributions toward creating an environment for the reduction of nuclear and conventional arms." The nation must also "take the initiative in promoting free trade."

Nakasone stressed that Japan must continue the aggressive foreign policy that characterized his first 13 months in office.

"Japan has given the world the impression it is a nation of 'economic animals'," he said. "In the future, based on our economic

strength, I hope to advance Japan as a nation of peace, politics and culture. I want to elevate the international status of Japan and revive Japan's voice in the international scene."

He said Japan, while maintaining its non-nuclear policies, would work to achieve a more effective self-defence force.

He said there were "many sentimental, emotional arguments" within the country for reducing Japan's defence force. "But these do not look at the grim international situation."

On icy Soviet-Japanese relations he said, "We shouldn't cut off dialogue with our most fearful partner. We neither regard the Soviet Union as an enemy nor hate the Soviets. But certain unfortunate events have made a temporary cooling of relations inevitable."

Soviet-Japanese relations, long strained over a territorial dispute, reached a recent low after Soviet jets shot down a South Korean airliner north of Japan on September 1.

Troops beat demonstrators in Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO (Reuters). — Riot troops and mounted police charged into a crowd demonstrating against Uruguay's 10-year-old military government at the weekend and arrested about 100 people, witnesses said.

Several demonstrators were kicked, punched and hit with truncheons, they said. One young man was beaten by several policemen and then dragged to a building site where an officer kicked his head. Motorists on Montevideo's main avenue blew their horns and neighbours banged saucers from their balconies in protest during the charge.

The demonstration, in support of the owner of an independent radio station shut down by the government, was staged outside the apart-

ment where he has been on hunger strike. Small demonstrations have been held there every day since La Radio was closed on December 17. But police cordoned off the building last night and charged into demonstrators gathered on nearby street corners.

Radio station owner German Araujo said earlier that he was ending his fast after the government announced that La Radio would be able to resume broadcasting on January 17.

La Radio was shut down for broadcasting the conventions of the country's two largest political parties, the Blanco and Colorado. It was part of a crackdown on the press after a ban on reporting political activity was replaced by a system of prior censorship.

Indira Gandhi retains party presidency

CALCUTTA (AP). — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress Party ended its first plenary session in eight years on Saturday, leaving her as the party's president.

An unofficial resolution proposing election of Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister's politically powerful son, to succeed her as party president was not moved, a spokesman said.

No reason was given for the decision. Observers interpreted it as a sign that the 66-year-old Gandhi still thinks she is a better person to head the party, although she has been grooming Rajiv, 39, as her political successor.

Meanwhile, several people were injured when police used tear gas and clubs to hold back crowds who rushed to a bridge in the city to get a glimpse of Gandhi and her son when their open jeep drove by.

Pakistan denies plan to base U.S. missiles

ISLAMABAD (AP). — The Pakistani government yesterday denied Soviet claims that Pakistan will permit installation of U.S. Pershing-2 nuclear missiles on its soil.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said the allegation made by Radio Moscow on December 25 was "categorically denied."

U.S. not helpful to UK during Suez talks

(This is the second and last part of a report on soon-to-be-released British cabinet records. The first part appeared in yesterday's edition.)

By HYAM CORNEY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

The "negotiations with Egypt" which are referred to when talking about proposed military cooperation with Israel occupied much of the cabinet's time in 1953 (which was, incidentally, Coronation Year). They centred on the future of the British base in the Canal Zone, over which the Egyptian leader, General Nguib, proved extremely difficult. On January 27, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden said at a cabinet meeting that "the attitude of the Egyptian government had become more hostile to the UK." He suggested that "it might have a salutary effect on Nguib" if Britain delayed delivery of some jet planes to Egypt, which had already been agreed.

Egypt wanted Britain to withdraw its troops from the Canal Zone. Britain wanted to maintain a presence there. On July 8, the cabinet decided that any agreement with Egypt should ensure that "in the event of a major war, or aggression, or threat of aggression, against Egypt by an outside power, the base area shall be at the full disposal of both the contracting parties. An aggression or threat of aggression by an Arab state shall be treated as a threat of aggression against Egypt."

Throughout the year, negotiations continued, with Britain conceding a number of points, such as the size of the British military presence and a restriction on British forces wearing military uniforms outside the base.

But to no avail. On October 2, Eden had to report to the cabinet that Egypt was "making difficulties, even on points on which there had previously seemed a good chance of agreement." One of these points was Egyptian refusal to include in the agreement any reference to freedom of transit through the Suez Canal.

By December 18, Eden was telling his cabinet colleagues that there were "some indications that the Egyptian government might be contemplating a course of action hostile to our interests. This might possibly be the conclusion of a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union or further attacks upon our forces in the Canal Zone or penal measures against British subjects living in Egypt."

Losing patience, Sir Winston Churchill said at the cabinet meeting of December 29 that "the time had come to bring to a head the defence negotiations with Egypt. Unless the Egyptian government agreed in the very near future to accept our latest proposals, we should declare that after a specified date, these proposals would lapse and we should regard ourselves as free to make our own plans. We should then begin to carry out a vigorous and effective redeployment of our forces in the

Middle East."

Throughout these negotiations, Britain was in touch with the Americans. But Washington did not always work together with London, even in those days. Selwyn Lloyd, then minister of state at the Foreign Office, told the cabinet on July 13 that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles "had taken the unfortunate and embarrassing step of obtaining from General Nguib a statement of his position in advance of his discussions with Britain."

Nguib's position, Lloyd reported, was "almost entirely unsatisfactory. It is of utmost importance," he told the cabinet, "that we should not be maneuvered into a position where the U.S. acted as an intermediary between us and Egypt."

As is made clear in the minutes of the September 8 cabinet meeting, there was one aspect of the negotiations with Egypt on which America and Britain differed. While Britain was keen to include some reference to freedom of transit through the Suez Canal, Washington was "particularly sensitive on this issue because of their own policy with regard to the Panama Canal." But as Churchill pointed out, Parliament and the British public as a whole would insist on some reference to the Suez Canal. "The omission of any reference to freedom of transit through the Suez," the prime minister said, "would certainly attract criticism, as it was the popular belief that this was the main purpose for our military base in the Canal Zone."

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Young Sikhs in Punjab get guerrilla warfare training

NEW DELHI (AP). — About 250 young Sikhs in Punjab state attended classes in guerrilla warfare and promised to fight to their deaths if police raid their sacred shrine, according to reports from the area yesterday.

"We are preparing volunteers to fight forces which are out to devour Sikhs, Sikh culture and traditions," said Bhai Amrik Singh, a leader of the militant Sikh student group that organized the "advanced training camp."

He spoke to the United News of India inside the Golden Temple complex in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, where the six-day session ended Saturday. It was organized by

the All India Sikh Students' Federation.

The group's general secretary, Harinder Singh Sandhu, told UNI that the camp identified the Sikhs' enemies as "the Hindu imperialism that is ruling the country," Communists, the Soviet KGB and "insidious" rival sects.

The trainees, most in their early 20s, were given instruction in guerrilla warfare and lectures on such topics as "extremism and arms," UNI said.

The government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi says the temple complex is used as an arsenal and sanctuary from police, but so far no attempts to raid the shrine have been made.

Reagan beats Arafat in Yugoslavian poll

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP). — U.S. President Ronald Reagan outstripped PLO leader Yasser Arafat to top a list of international personalities attracting most attention from Yugoslav citizens in 1983, according to a poll just published here.

The weekly *Osmica* said Reagan garnered 38.1 per cent of those polled, followed by Arafat with 24.34 per cent. Third was French President Francois Mitterrand with Soviet Leader Yuri Andropov fourth.

The question was: "Which foreign personalities from all walks of life particularly attracted your attention in a positive or negative sense in 1983?"

Soldier who rode with T.E. Lawrence dies

SEATTLE, Washington (AP). — George Trask, one of the few survivors of a British camel corps commanded by the legendary Lawrence of Arabia, has died, family members said on Friday. He was 87.

He died last Sunday of a heart attack in his Bainbridge Island home, his son, Russell, said.

Sports

Friendly games

By DON GOULD

Maccabi Tel Aviv face Synac Milan today in the final of the World Invitation Club Basketball Championships in Crystal Palace, London.

The Italian team beat the host side Crystal Palace Supersonics 90-77 in a semi-final yesterday, after overcoming Red Star Belgrade 116-98 in a quarter-final game. The stars of the Italian side so far have been Dino Meneghin and D'Antonio. Renzo Bariviera got into trouble in the "friendly" game against Red Star, being sent off for striking Zvezda Advija.

An Israeli national squad left yesterday to play in a friendly tournament in Sweden against Sweden, Yugoslavia and Greece.

Rising star

Post Sports Staff

Ohad Weinberg, Israel's young tennis star, is through to the finals of the Under 12 International Junior Tennis Championships at Port Washington.

He scored a crushing 6-4, 6-2 semi-final victory over Marcus Barbosa of Brazil in the semi-final. In the finals he will encounter Ivan Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia.

Gillad Bloom went down in the semi-finals of the 16-and-under division, losing 6-1, 6-2 to fourth-seeded Bruno Cresar of Yugoslavia. Bloom was seeded fifth. He held his service in a 28-point, 17-minute opening game, but after that was outplayed by his opponent.

Thus Israel's hopes of glory from this key junior tournament are now pinned on Weinberg.

49ers beat the Lions

SAN FRANCISCO (AP). — Joe Montana's 14-yard touchdown pass to Freddie Solomon with 1:23 to play vaulted the San Francisco 49ers past the Detroit Lions 24-23 on Saturday and into the National Football Conference championship game.

San Francisco will now play the winner of the Los Angeles Rams-Washington Redskins game for the NFC title on January 8.

Perkis has good tour

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — Israel's No. 2 tennis player Shahar Perkis, 21, has taken sixth place among the 130 starters on the ATP's \$50,000 Datsun satellite circuit in South Africa, which ended over the weekend. His success was worth an invaluable nine computer points, lifting his world singles ranking to about 270, representing an overall rise of nearly 200 places up the standings in less than four months.

In the fifth and final event of the tournament series held in Cape Town, Perkis was beaten in the singles semi-final of the 64-strong main draw. Earlier, he had finished as runner-up once, and twice he got as far as the quarter-finals.

Olga rides again

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Olga Korbut, the Soviet gymnast who won three gold medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics and gained countless admirers with her daring routines and winning smiles, has taken up horse riding and hopes to start competing in dressage this year.

Korbut's daily, reported that Korbut, who retired in 1977, began training on horses after Olympic dressage champion Viktor Uzhakov invited her to join his training group in his home town of Minsk, Soviet Belarussia.

Solo sail on \$435

LONDON (AP). — Planning to sail around the world roughly along the equator, lone yachtsman Eric Peters set out from London on Saturday with just \$4.35 in his pocket and scanty rations in his tiny, barrel-shaped craft.

"I am confident I can do it. There is no danger in this boat. It is self-righting, and, as far as I am concerned, is the safest afloat." The 44-year-old Peters said as he embarked on the Thames River in South London.

The shrewish without, named "Toucan-Nut" after his children Tony, 16, and Nicole, 12, is just 1.77 metres long.

Peters, from Littlehampton, Sussex, has already sailed across the Atlantic and now plans to go to France and then to the Canary Islands for a refit, before crossing the Atlantic.

Hoteliers want industry-wide price reductions to boost trade The Yanks are coming, but not the Europeans

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

While Israel's inflation and the falling value of the pound sterling have increased prices for British tourists in Israel by almost 50 per cent, Spain has lowered its prices for British tourists by six per cent.

This was reported by Rafi Be'eri, economic adviser to Tourism Minister Avraham Shariar in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. In summarizing the trends in tourism during the past year, Be'eri noted that while tourism from the U.S. had picked up considerably since the slump caused by the war in Lebanon, there had been little such recovery from Europe.

He explained that the traditional market in the U.S. was composed of Jews with emotional ties with Israel and Christian pilgrims, coming to see the Holy Land. In both cases, he said, the market was "flexible," allowing for an increase in prices, while lower prices would not necessarily attract more visitors.

The greater part of the European tourists, on the other hand, come to Israel as a tourist site and resort. If

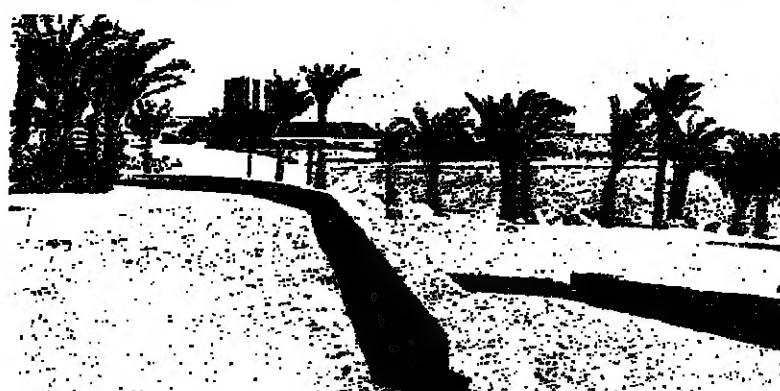
prices were higher than those at other destinations, then the prospective tourist would have no compunctions about changing his plans and going elsewhere. With prices for tourists in Israel set in dollars, Europeans, whose currencies have dropped in relation to the dollar, are finding the country ever more expensive.

Be'eri noted that the hoteliers have agreed to charge Europeans in their own currencies, a step that amounts to a discount of an estimated 20 per cent. But they are willing to do this only as part of an overall package which would include discounts by others in the industry, a reduction of such government levies as landing fees and a massive marketing campaign. The

package proposal made by Shariar over a week ago has yet to receive the reply of Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad.

As for 1984, Be'eri said that if there was no reduction of prices and fares, combined with a massive sales campaign, the situation would be "very bad." He admitted that during the past year the number of incoming visitors had equalled and even slightly surpassed the pre-war level of 1981. But he added that with an increase of some 4,000 hotel rooms recommended for tourists this year, over the present level of about 28,000, the industry would soon feel the pinch.

Tourism brought in an estimated \$1 billion last year, apart from air fares.



Part of the new board walk at the hotel area near the southern end of the Dead Sea. The scenic paved promenade is one of the Tourism Ministry's projects completed during 1983.

Dollar value of all stocks down 69% during 1983

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The dollar-equivalent of all stocks traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange stood at \$5.5 billion on December 31, 1983, a drop of 69 per cent, or \$12b. over the entire year, according to a report just published by the Securteam financial consultancy firm.

"Despite the \$750 million raised on the stock market in 1982 and the \$220m. in 1983, and the admission of 123 new firms to the exchange, the real value of the market is now \$2.6b. (32 per cent) lower than it was on December 31, 1981," Securteam researchers note. They add that at the end of 1983 the dollar value was only \$700m. more than at the end of 1980.

Only three firms made actual dollar gains in 1983, with the most important of them, Elbit, gaining 53 per cent in value, to stand at \$135m. A total of 63 companies out of 258 registered on the exchange lost about 90 per cent of their value in 1983. One of them, Modul Beton, lost 99 per cent, falling in value from \$80m. to only \$1m.

As for the commercial banks, in the last three months Bank Hapoalim lost \$1.3b. of its value,

and Leumi fell by \$1.2b., while IDB lost \$633m.

The value of the different sectors dropped in 1983 as follows: commercial banks 55 per cent, to \$3.32b.; mortgage banks down 71 per cent to \$190m.; financing institutions, down by 64 per cent, to \$99m. Insurance companies slipped by 88 per cent, to \$91m.; trade and utilities were down 82 per cent, to \$141m.; land development companies fell by 86 per cent, to \$241m.; industrials were down by 73 per cent, to \$871m.; investment companies, down 82 per cent, to \$494m.; and petroleum firms fell by 89 per cent, to \$24m.

The 16 largest companies on the stock market now are in dollars:

	Dec. 31, 1983	Dec. 31, 1982
Hapoalim	986m.	1,926m.
Leumi	896m.	1,772m.
IDB	463m.	867m.
Discount	353m.	835m.
Mizrahi	257m.	418m.
Elbit	135m.	88m.
Dead Sea	134m.	756m.
Elron	132m.	153m.
IDB Dev.	89m.	418m.
Koor	83m.	296m.
First Int'l	78m.	382m.
Clal	73m.	814m.
Solel Boneh	54m.	475m.
FIBI	99m.	539m.
Teva	32m.	122m.
Electric Corp.	21m.	422m.

First Siberian gas pumped into France

MOSCOW (Reuters). — The first supplies of Siberian gas have started pumping through the controversial East-West pipeline to France, Moscow Radio reported yesterday. The broadcast did not say, however, whether delivery had also started to West Germany and Austria, the other main purchasers.

The pipeline was the subject of bitter controversy between Western Europe and the U.S. in 1982, when President Reagan imposed sanctions on the supply of equipment following the declaration of martial law in Poland.

Washington took action against West German, British, French and Italian firms which continued to send in compressors and other pipeline gear, but dropped the sanctions 14 months ago in response to European pressure.

The 4,500km. pipeline is not due to be fully completed until the spring, when work on its 41 compressor stations will be finished.

Your money & your questions

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Post Finance Reporter

QUESTION: I have invested in several savings schemes through my bank. Will the rate of devaluation and the general banking condition affect their net results when they mature several years from now?

ANSWER: All savings schemes are structured so that they must be held to maturity and it is almost impossible to "break" them. Furthermore, the savings schemes which are either linked to the cost-of-living index or the rate of exchange of the shekel vis-a-vis the dollar are as good as the State of Israel. The banks which issue these schemes must invest funds in either government index-linked bonds or in Treasury approved dollar-linked bonds.

If you believe that the Treasury or the Bank of Israel will not default on these obligations, then there is really nothing to worry about. If the opposite is true, then you should not make future plans contingent on the expected valuations of the schemes when they fall due.

QUESTION: I sold bank shares and options on October 24, 1983. What was my approximate dollar value loss compared with valuations at September 30, 1983?

ANSWER: The dollar loss of the bank securities towards the end of October was about 35 per cent.

QUESTION: Does the \$3,000 limit on taking money out of the country on a trip have any effect on the funds which I brought from the U.S. and keep in my dollar account?

ANSWER: Every resident going abroad is allowed to take with him \$3,000, of which up to \$500 may be in cash. New immigrants who maintain *Patah* free dollar accounts, may freely transfer these funds for a period of 20 years from the day they become new immigrants or temporary residents. The right to transfer funds out of the country or,

for that matter, the right to transfer funds into your account in Israel from outside the country is in no way connected with your taking a trip abroad.

QUESTION: My son is shortly going to the U.S. for specialized training. He still has rights to buy duty-free goods. Is he limited to taking \$3,000 out of the country?

ANSWER: As in the preceding case, if you have free foreign currency rights you may send your son these funds. Even if you did not have freely transferable foreign currency holdings, you could transfer up to \$3,000 per year to your son. This is part of the privilege of providing financial assistance to a close relative living outside the country.

QUESTION: Do you think there will be a major devaluation of the shekel in the near future?

ANSWER: The Minister of Finance has clearly stated that it is the Treasury's policy to maintain the rate of devaluation of the shekel in line with the rate of inflation. This policy, insofar as an export-oriented economic programme is concerned, makes a lot of sense and there is no reason to assume that this is about to be changed. Daily devaluations of 0.6-0.9 per cent mean monthly devaluations of 12-18 per cent. This is in keeping with prospects of monthly rates of inflation over the near term.

QUESTION: Which shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange performed best in 1983 and which had the worst performance?

ANSWER: Elbit Computers had an annual nominal yield of 412 per cent. Ya'aneh Computers was a close second with a yield of 411 per cent. Modul Beton had a nominal loss of 96 per cent.

QUESTION: Which bank shares had the best performance in 1983?

ANSWER: The North American Bank IS5 shares had a nominal annual advance of 290 per cent.

Paris exchange closes at record high

PARIS (Reuters). — The Paris stock exchange's all-share index closed last week at its highest-ever level, continuing the record-breaking rise which began earlier this year, stock exchange sources said.

The index has risen sharply since 1983 drew to a close. Investors were encouraged to buy shares to take advantage of tax concessions on so-called share savings accounts, which had to be used by the end of the year, the sources said.

The all-share index closed at 167.9, more than 50 per cent higher

than at the start of the year and compared to 159.6 at the beginning of this month.

The volume of transactions for the first 11 months of 1983 totalled 290.57 billion francs (34.59b.), a full 53.7 per cent up on the same period last year, they said.

The boom on the stock exchange has also been due to falling French interest and a weakening in the French franc against the dollar.

Stock analysts expect the advance to continue into 1984.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION BEIT SHEMESH LOCAL COUNCIL

Owner-Occupier Construction in Beit Shemesh for Young Couples with Rights

In cooperation with Beit Shemesh Local Council, the Israel Lands Administration announces the allocation of 5 plots for the construction of 16 housing units in Beit Shemesh.

Registration is restricted to young couples, resident in Beit Shemesh, who meet the following criteria:

- As Beit Shemesh residents, they have lived in Beit Shemesh for a year, prior to registration for one of these plots — as indicated by their identity cards.
- When registering, they are able to show a rights certificate, showing that they are entitled to assistance as a young couple.

Registration, which will be at the office of Beit Shemesh Local Council, will open at 9 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, January 3, and close at 12 noon on January 20, 1984.

Additional particulars, and a detailed information sheet are available at the offices of Beit Shemesh Local Council.

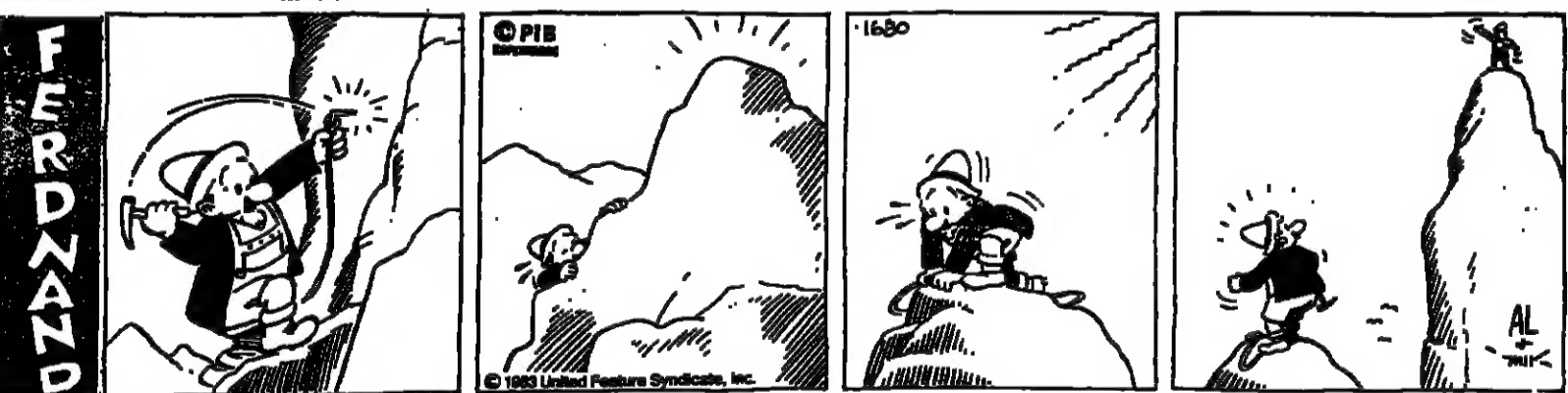
Israel Lands Administration Menahemiya Local Council Ministry of Construction and Housing Rural Construction Administration Northern District

Build Your Home in Menahemiya

The Israel Lands Administration, together with the Local Council and the Rural Construction Administration of the Ministry of Construction and Housing, announce the opening of additional registration for the above scheme, under which 15 plots will be allotted for the construction of one-family buildings.

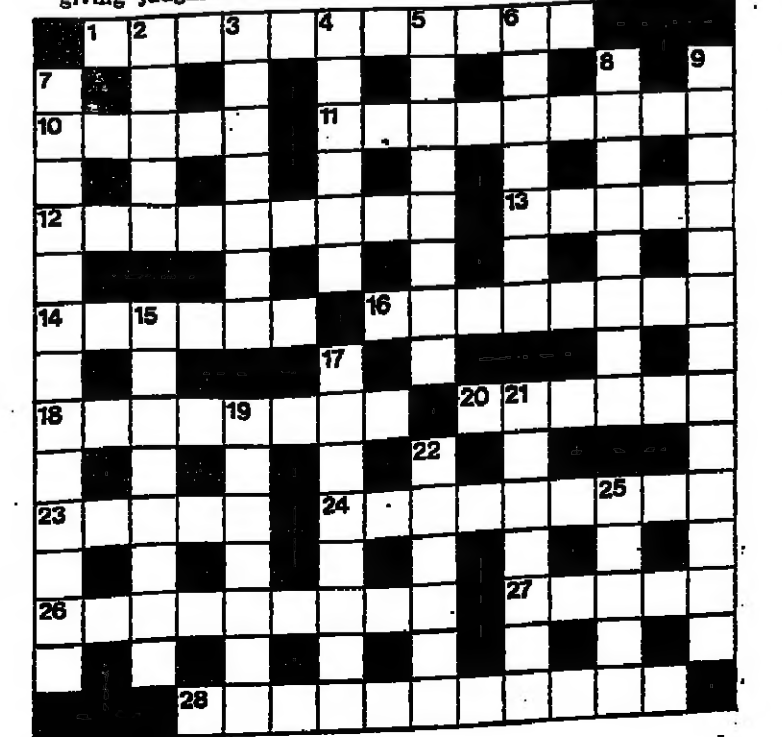
Registration will be held at the Israel Lands Administration office, Industrial Zone, Upper Nazareth, on Sunday — Friday, 8.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.; on Tuesday 8.30-10.30 a.m. only. Registration will begin on Tuesday, January 3, 1984 at 9 a.m. and end at 12 noon on January 17, 1984.

A detailed prospectus and additional details are available at the above Lands Administration office.



ONE-AND-ONE CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Profits easily made by a fruit-preserving concern? (5, 3, 3)
 - It's holding me back for particulars (5)
 - Turns a social occasion into a business discussion? (5, 4)
 - An oval confection present in spring (6, 5)
 - Europe in turmoil lacking nothing but money from the Far East (5)
 - Stress that may betray one's place of origin (6)
 - Establishment that prides itself on its good breeding (4, 4)
 - Old Norse chief interrupting my one-man rule (8)
 - She has no right to follow Samuel's mentor (6)
 - Goddess of spring? (5)
 - Handy little device for cleaning finger-plates (4-5)
 - Acting for which overtime money may be claimed? (5, 4)
 - A Scottish boy returning from a foreign country (5)
 - Refuses to be deterred from giving judgments? (5, 6)
- DOWN**
- Starts to write in circles (5)
 - Oriental variety of sea bird that's like a gull in appearance (7)
 - Assembly-man in better trim for work? (6)
 - Move down a class at the end of the season (8)
 - Self-confident beast of burden given rude treatment (7)
 - Prepared to give David Steel generous support? (7-6)
 - Militant preacher fellow getting a bit return out (8)
 - A drug-pusher pursued by the highway patrol? (5-8)
 - Offenders who get time to reflect over their misdeeds (8)
 - It's clear it could be a suitable course for beginners (4, 4)
 - Engineers dogged by addled bureaucratic excesses? (3, 4)
 - Means of access to things that are bound to be borrowed (7, 8)
 - A league match, possibly (5)



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Deutsch, 53 Mea Shearim, 25-963.
Batsam, Salah Eddin, 272315, Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810115, Dar El-Jawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Leif Halir, 49 Ehad Ha'am, 613812.
Kupat Holim Leumi, 4 Heftman, 26271.
Petah Tikva: Kupat Holim Clalit, Haim Ozer St., Netanya: Hadassah, 24 Herzl, 22247.
Haifa: Not available. Harman, Modi'in Lane, K. Metzkin, 715136.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (pediatrics), Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, E.N.T.), Hadassah Mount Scopus (gynecology), Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Rikah (pediatrics, internal, surgery).
Netanya: Lantado (obstetrics, internal, pediatrics, gynecology, surgery).

POLICE

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias dial 024444. Kiryat Shmona 04441.

FIRST AID

Phone numbers: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa — (1st Dan Region) Ramat Gan, Be'er Sheva, Givatayim — 781111.

Ashdod 41333, Nazareth 54333, Ashkelon 23333, Netanya 23333, Bat Yam 38555-6, Petah Tikva 912333, Be'er Sheva 78333, Rehovot 054-51333, Eilat 72333, Rishon LeZion 942333, Hadera 22333, Safed 30333, Tiberias 20111, Nahariya 92333.

Magen David Amdat first aid centres are open, from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. Emergency home calls by doctors at fixed rates. Sick Fund members should enquire about rebate.

Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 1234819, Jerusalem — 810110, and Haifa 88791.

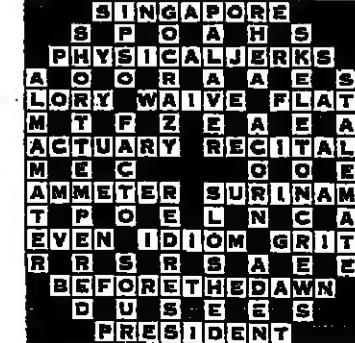
"Eran" — Mental Health First Aid, Tel Aviv 069911, Tel Aviv 253311, Haifa 538888, Be'er Sheva 481111, Netanya 35316.

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(multi-line)

ARRIVALS ONLY
(TAPED MESSAGE)
03-295555 (20 lines)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



ACROSS: 1 Invalid, 5 Right, 8 Panic, 9 Nearest, 10 Yes please, 12 Ren, 13 Embryo, 14 Occurs, 17 Era, 18 Wednesday, 20 Tulsion, 21 Drive, 22 Dwell, 24 Strayed. **DOWN:** 1 Imply, 2 Van, 3 Locally, 4 Domicil, 5 Strayed, 6 Greyhound, 7 Tatum, 11 Submarine, 12 Yield, 13 Cheddar, 16 Adonis, 18 Whirl, 19 Yield, 22 Ivy.

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THE JERUSALEM POST
INTERNATIONAL EDITION

Money Matters

Economic gloom is not all-pervasive

Diamonds recapture some sparkle

By J. VOET

Special to The Jerusalem Post

A curious situation is developing. Israel is preparing for a rather serious recession. This slowing down of economic activities is being created by a series of government-initiated steps to protect the shrinking foreign currency reserves and to combat inflation. The atmosphere is gloomy.

In diamond circles, however, an optimistic mood prevails. It is believed that the recent severe recession has been conquered and that better times are ahead.

The year 1983 was a turning point for Israel's diamond industry. Three years before, in 1980, exports reached a record \$1,400 million. Thereafter, sales dropped sharply. Exports for 1981 totalled only \$1,067 million.

This decline continued into 1982, when sales of polished diamonds abroad went down to \$905 million, a decline of more than \$500 million or 36 per cent in only two years.

In October, 1982, there was a rather hesitant improvement. After January, 1983, exports started to rise again. Every month of 1983, except September, saw a higher sales figure than for the corresponding period in 1982. On the average the increase amounted to over 11 per cent. In this manner, 1983 exports again surpassed the magic figure of \$1 billion.

The long recession in the diamond industry is apparently a thing of the past.

It should be noted, however, that

during 1983 Ramat Gan was an open market for diamonds. Polished gems can be imported into Israel, free of customs duty. Government statistics show that about \$120 million worth of diamonds were brought in. As locally very few pieces of diamond jewelry are sold (purchases by tourists excepted), it must be assumed that the export of over \$1 billion was for about 90 per cent "Made in Israel." Also in 1982 polished diamonds were imported, but in smaller quantities. Most probably the increase in the export of diamonds polished in Israel in 1983 was limited to about 5 per cent.

The sharp decline in the average price per carat has also been halted. The price per carat slumped from \$600 in 1980, through \$500 in 1981, to about \$450 in 1982. But for 1983 this price was somewhat higher, at \$458 per carat.

The import of roughs increased much more than the export of the polished product. The growth was 37 per cent, according to dollar value, and 29 per cent, carat-wise. The average price of imported diamonds rose from \$133 per carat to \$143 in 1983. The situation evident in preceding years — sales of too expensive stocks — is a thing of the past. The industry presently has a healthy stock position, with the exception of firms which specialize in big stones.

The total increase is especially due to the growth of the sales to Israel's principal customer: the U.S. Exports to North America in-

creased by nearly one-quarter. The U.S. at present buys about 43 per cent of Israel's total production of polished gems. The sale to so-called transit countries, which buy diamonds from Israel for resale to third countries which do not like to buy directly from Israel, increased moderately, about 5 per cent. This is primarily due to the larger consignments sent to Antwerp, which increased about 11 per cent. The export to Switzerland dropped somewhat. The third transit country, Holland, is no longer important.

Purchases by European customers were disappointing. Western Germany, Britain, France and Italy together buy only one-seventh of the export to the U.S. and Canada. The sale to these countries receded in 1983 by more than 16 per cent. Sales to the Far East also decreased, but to a lesser degree. Exports to Malaysia, Hong Kong and Japan were second to those to the U.S. and Canada, but they were only 60 per cent of the sales to Israel's principal customer. Not too long ago the Far East was on equal basis with the U.S., even once surpassing the U.S. as Israel's most important client.

The fact that the import of roughs increased substantially more than the export of polished gems indicates a more healthy stock position. But the direct share of the Central Selling Organization in this substantially increased import receded from about 33 per cent to just below 30 per cent.

The diamond industry remains an important source of foreign currency for the economy. In 1983 sales abroad netted about \$430 million more than paid for the imports of roughs. If one deducts from this amount the \$120 million paid for the import of polished goods, the foreign currency profit exceeds \$300 million.

The future of the industry looks promising. The protection of the diminishing foreign currency reserves is the No.1 priority at present. This has resulted in the government taking steps to promote exports. The diamond industry, exporter par excellence, will be among the beneficiaries of the October devaluation. This will, without a doubt, have a stimulating effect on the 1984 sales.

However, this does not mean there are no serious problems in the future. In the first place, a change in the structure of the industry, look place during 1983. Some big enterprises closed their doors. On the other hand, a number of small polishing plants started activities, increasing the total number of workers in the industry. These small enterprises usually do not have their own sales department, relying on the assistance of seasoned exporters. This alteration in the structure can have far-reaching consequences. It is generally assumed that it will improve the industry's competitive position. It is time that this is realized, given the sharp competition of other diamond polishing centres.

Recently a new centre has been added to existing ones — Thailand. In and around Bangkok an effort is made, with the active assistance of the London-based Central Selling Organization, to create a diamond polishing industry. It seems to be concentrating production on smaller and medium-sized gems of good quality. Considering the lower wage level in Thailand, this industry can grow into a dangerous competition for Israel.

There is also new competition from the Philippines, where activities are under way to build up a diamond industry. This is being done with the assistance of an Israeli producer who, it is reported, has closed his enterprise in Israel and shipped his machinery to Manila.

It is difficult to predict what will happen in the future. But the industry is used to adapting to rapidly changing circumstances.

Context

WE HAVE TALKED about roses in this column and announced rose-planting demonstrations in Jerusalem. But there are many other flowering shrubs and trees which you can plant from now until the end of February.

These shrubs and trees add tremendous interest, colour and seasonal change to your garden and, by making a careful choice, you can have something in bloom throughout every season.

Whether you've just moved into a new house and are still surrounded by builder's rubble, or just want to give your garden an overhaul, now's the time to make some decisions. Where do you want summer shade, screening for privacy, or wind protection? Are there any unattractive views you want to block out? Perhaps there's a tree or a perennial shrub you might consider just for its decorative value.

Pay a visit to an established nursery and get some advice on height, colour and space requirements to avoid root competition. Find out about the flowering season of each plant.

Here are a few suggestions for a colourful, round-the-year display of shrubs and trees, and the nurseryman should be able to help you choose your favourites. But, remember: the first condition for planting is sufficient space.

For flowering in winter: *Grevillea robusta* (grey-leaved hassuna in Hebrew); *Camellia japonica* (kamelia japonit); *Poinsettia pulcherrima*

Time to make decisions

GARDENER'S CORNER / Walter Frankl

(*halavim* haduri); *Senecio mikanoides* (*savin metapess*) and *Kniphofia* — *Tritoma grandiflora* (same in Hebrew). There are some species which flower in early summer.

Flowering in early spring: Almond (*Prunus amygdalus*, *shaked* in Hebrew); Apricot (*Prunus armeniaca*, *nishmesh*); *Viburnum chinensis* (*lilach sini*). Late spring and early summer: *Ulmus* (*ashel* in Hebrew); *Philadelphus virginialis* (same name in Hebrew); roses of all kinds: *Fuchsias*, (*Nerium oleander* (*harduff hanahallim*); flowering maple (*Abutilon sinensis*, *abutilon sini* in Hebrew); *Forstia suspensa* (*forstia netay*); *Veronica spicata*, also called *Hebe* (*beronika meshulelet*).

Late summer and early autumn: *Hibiscus rosa sinensis* (*hibiscus sini*); *Buddleia asiatica* (*budleya asiati*); *Myrica communis* (*hadass matsui*); *Bauhinia grandiflora* (*bohenia gdolat prahim*); *Caesalpinia spinosa* (*kaesalpinia kotzani*); *Lantana camara* (*lantana metzuya*); *Shasta daisy*, *marguerite* (*Chrysanthemum*

maximum, *hartsit levanat prahim*); *Rosmarinus officinalis* (*rosmarin refuee*); *Lavandula officinalis* (*asovian refuee*); *Cotoneaster* (*haboushit*) and *Pyracantha* (same in Hebrew). The flowers of the last two shrubs are insignificant, but they both produce very decorative red and orange berries, which last for a long period.

Trees and shrubs chosen for their shade, colour and beauty are not only the permanent framework of your garden, but also a traditional symbol and something of a national duty. Get your family and neighbours together on Tu B'Shvat (January 19), the New Year for trees in Israel, and plant some trees in your garden, just as our ancestor Abraham did in Beersheba when he immigrated to Eretz Israel.

Magnificent manure. I remember when I was in first grade, the teacher asked, "What can we get from a cow?" "Milk!" many of us answered simultaneously. "Right," said the teacher, "but what can we get from the milk?" "Butter, cheese, cream, yoghurt..." "Right again!" said the teacher, "but what else?"

Thus we learned that a cow gives us meat and bones, and that the bones may be used to produce bone-meal and glue; that the leather made from cowhides may be used for shoes, belts and clothes — even for stuffing furniture.

"And finally," exclaimed the teacher, "manure!" Cow-manure, he told us, is one of the finest plant foods since ancient times. "It makes grapes and apples tastier; your lawn greener; your flowers brighter in colour and more fragrant; wheat and corn richer in grains and, therefore, our bread healthier and better for us."

But here, our teacher's wisdom came to an end. He couldn't have had the faintest notion that, some 70 years later, the Jewish farmers of Kibbutz Zikkim near Ashkelon would be using cow manure for energy!

The nitrogen in the manure is used to produce a butane-gas for cooking and heating. But this is not all. After the extraction of the gas, a sterile, peat-like material emerges. This is just appearing on the market as a planting medium for soilless (hydroponically grown) ornamentals. Mixed with fine tuff bagolan and watered with a nutrient solution, it also serves as an ideal material for raising seedlings or rooting cuttings.

The new material, called *botsa*, has a neutral pH and sells about 30

per cent cheaper than imported peat. The main supplier in Israel for *botsa*, tuff bagolan and hydroponics containers in all shapes and sizes is Plastic Magen, 40 Derech Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv; in Haifa: 37 Derech Ha'atsmat; Jerusalem: Talpiot Industrial Area, opposite Autocheck.

Dahlias — a new approach. Imported dahlia tubers are again on offer at local florists and seed shops. They've arrived very early this year. December — even with spring-like weather — is no season for planting of dahlia tubers in Israel. The right time is March to April. Dahlias can be reproduced in three ways: planting tubers, by seed or by cuttings. All three will give you good results — but the last is the cheapest.

If you have dahlia tuber stock from last season at hand, you can start your preparations in January. Fill a seed box or a big tin with peat (or *botsa*) and plunge the tubers flat into the material. Ensure that they are completely healthy and get rid of any parts that show signs of rot. Before inserting them into the germinating containers, dust the tubers with sulphur powder.

Place the boxes in a wind-protected, sunny position and cover with plastic or glass. (The best place to put them is in a greenhouse, but a closed balcony or any other place with a night temperature not lower than 10°C will give good results). The first sprouts will appear after a wait of about 3 to 4 weeks, sometimes earlier.

Keep the medium moist, but do not overwater. When the sprouts become visible, water well each day, and the shoots will soon elongate and give you cuttings that can be separated from the mother tubers for rooting.

Transplant the cuttings into small flowerpots filled with nothing more than equal parts of peat (or *botsa*) and sand (or vermiculite mixture) and water them daily. The filling material tends to dry out quickly, but it will help to produce good roots in a short time. By then we'll be in February, with a possibility of frost, so the pots should be kept under plastic or glass — especially during bad weather and at night.

In 2 to 3 weeks, the cuttings will develop their own roots and become dahlia plants in their own right. When they have grown to a height of 15 to 20 cm., the cuttings should be finally transplanted, either into large tins filled with rich soil or holes you can prepare beforehand in a sunny position in your garden. Sticks one metre long should be inserted together with the rooted plants (cuttings) to protect the hollow stems, which break easily. The young plants should be regularly tied to the stick at intervals of about 20 cm.

This propagation method — by far the most popular one — is used by professionals to produce millions of dahlia plants each spring. In these expensive times, it can help the amateur to reduce costs.

Weight of circumstances

LAW REPORT / Asher Felix Landau

In the Supreme Court sitting as a Court of Criminal Appeals before Justice Menachem Elon, Justice Moshe Bjeski and Justice Dov Levin in the matter between Eliezer Itzkowitz, appellant, versus the State of Israel, respondent (Cr.A. 669/83).

ON JULY 4, 1982, during disturbances in the town of El-Bira, the municipal offices were stoned and the appellant, a municipal employee, shot a youth called Mussa some 200 metres from the building.

The bullet entered the lower portion of Mussa's back. In an operation for its removal, it was necessary to put stitches in his liver; he was hospitalized for about ten days and later had to undergo a second operation.

The appellant was convicted in the District Court, under sections 334 and 335(1) of the Penal Law of 1977, of unlawfully wounding a person in aggravated circumstances, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, a year of which was suspended. The appellant then appealed to the Supreme Court against the severity of the sentence.

The judgment of the Supreme Court was given by Justice Menachem Elon. According to police evidence, he said, Mussa was a known trouble-maker, whose family had to leave their village because of his and his brother's behaviour. On the day in question, he was one of a group of youths carrying stones. The appellant, suspecting them of having stoned the municipal offices, pursued them in a jeep driven by a municipal driver.

At first he shot in the air, and then at the group. The District Court had rightly dismissed the appellant's plea of self-defence since it had found that he had shot Mussa unlawfully with the object of wounding him while fleeing, while he himself was in no danger.

It was an accepted rule, Justice Elon continued, that an appeal court will not interfere with a sentence unless it is excessive, either in severity or leniency. It is not enough that that court itself would have imposed a different sentence. It may also interfere, however, if the lower court has acted on the basis of faulty reasoning or invalid comparisons. That was the position in the present case.

The District Court had relied on a judgment of the Supreme Court, which had held that the court must consider "not only the violent nature of the offence, but the serious influence of such an act on the rule of law in the administered territories, its repercussions on the ability of the State to preserve the security of the population under its care and the propaganda opportunities it creates for its enemies."

In that case the Supreme Court had increased a prison sentence from six months to a year, together with a fine and suspended sentence, imposed upon one of a group of five

drunken men who had entered a residential suburb of Hebron, shouted insults at the local Arabs and for no reason whatever fired into one of the houses. The bullet shattered a window, and a child of five was injured from splinters of glass. The Supreme Court described that incident as "hooliganism for its own sake."

THE TWO CASES had nothing in common, and the District Court had erred in comparing them. On the day in question, the local inhabitants had disturbed and harassed Jews — workers and passersby — and Mussa had been seen throwing stones a few hours before the occurrence. The offence in the present case was serious in its violence and consequences; it was not, however, a case of dangerous hooliganism for its own sake, and in the circumstances it was not a crime that would put the State to shame.

The use of firearms, save with proper authority or for self-defence, is strictly forbidden, and the appellant had therefore been rightly convicted and must be punished. But he is not a hooligan. He and others had testified as to their frustration at what they regard as the failure of the authorities to protect them adequately. The appellant himself is often at the mercy of stone-throwers on his way to and from his home in Kiryat Arba, and evidence had been given of contradictory instructions as to how the appellant, and others in his position, should act.

All these factors undoubtedly contributed to his losing his self-control and taking the law into his own hands. He had expressed regret before sentence was passed, and it was clear from his words that his regret was genuine.

The District Court had also failed to give proper weight to the particular personal circumstances of the appellant, Justice Elon said. He was married with five children, had a clean record, was devoted to his home and employment, worked for the community, was respected by his associates and was in poor health. Moreover, his mother was a victim of the Holocaust and would suffer greatly by reason of his imprisonment.

As against all these factors, Justice Elon said, it was also vital in cases such as this to pass a sentence that would deter everyone from violence and ensure the rule of law and order for the benefit of all, equally, irrespective of nationality, religion or race.

In all the circumstances the appeal would be allowed, and the sentence of actual imprisonment imposed on the appellant reduced to six months. The suspended sentence of one year's imprisonment would be confirmed.

Advocate David Rotem appeared for the appellant, and Advocate Uzi Hasson, director of the Fiscal Division of the State Attorney's Office, for the State.

Judgment was given on December 14, 1983.

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KEEP ISRAEL BEAUTIFUL

LEBANESE ARMY

(Continued from Page One)

stay put in the South until it had obtained or installed satisfactory security arrangements there. Israel had been "alone" before the second advent of the MNF, the source noted. Indeed, the MNF had been sent in ostensibly against Israel's wishes and there were frequent clashes and much tension in the initial period between the IDF and the Marines. It was only later that Washington had come to perceive its interests and those of Israel as overlapping.

Israel's "only condition" for withdrawing from Lebanon, the senior defence source said, is the security of Galilee. The demands for withdrawal of all foreign forces and for a strong central government in Lebanon are intended to facilitate this primary goal. They are not ends in themselves as far as Israel is concerned.

Similarly, the May 17 agreement between Israel and Lebanon was "a political instrument" to achieve the primary goal of withdrawal. It had proved useful to the Beirut government as a means of withstanding Syrian pressure, the source noted.

But — this was the implication — Israel would not insist on implementation of every jot and tittle of that agreement if it could ensure security arrangements in South Lebanon and thus facilitate the withdrawal of its troops.

To this end Israel is seeking to build up local Shi'ite militia forces

in South Lebanon. In return for the IDF's aid to these militias, they are to police the area and prevent PLO incursions.

No wide-ranging agreement along these lines has been reached yet. But the senior source was hopeful that eventually the IDF and the Shi'ites would find "common interests" that would enable them to work together — and would enable Israel to pull out all or most of its forces from South Lebanon.

The source noted that some of the disparate Shi'ite groups in the South feared their more radical and fundamentalist brethren living under Syrian domination in the Baalbek region to the northeast.

The source dismissed the idea advanced by former premier Yitzhak Rabin (and, in a different form, by former defence minister Ariel Sharon) that UNIFIL be deployed between the Awaal and Zaharani Rivers as a buffer force to be bolstered in the South by local militia units.

"It is not we who deploy or direct UNIFIL," the source observed. A change in UNIFIL's mandate would require UN Security Council approval — and the Russians would prevent it.

Rabin believes, to the contrary, that the Russians would willingly agree to UNIFIL fulfilling a key peacekeeping role in Lebanon — assuming this were preceded by the withdrawal of the western units comprising the Multi-National Force in Beirut.

HISTADRUT

(Continued from Page One)

the communiqué issued after yesterday's cabinet meeting.

In a reply to a question, the aide said the labour federation would even agree to some cuts — on condition that the burden was divided justly. "It depends on what sort of sacrifices (the workers) are asked to make. That would be a matter for negotiations," the aide said.

However, the aide insisted the Histadrut would not agree to a wage freeze. Prices may rise despite the efforts to curb inflation and the employers would have a strong argument against raising the cost of living allowance, he explained.

In the envisaged talks, the parties would have to reckon with Mapam's position. The left-wing party is in no position to dictate policy to the Labour Party which has enough votes to dominate the Histadrut alone.

But Mapam's senior represen-

tative in the Histadrut, Naftali Ben-Moshe, told *The Post* he did not believe Labour would want to leave its left-wing flank open.

Ben-Moshe said he would consider a government suggestion for an agreement, but he said he was not willing to make any concessions. "This government is close to the end of the road and we are the ones (asked) to give it artificial respiration. The government has no chances of healing the economy, so why should we make sacrifices to help it?" he asked.

Nahum Fasa suggested the Histadrut lead a struggle over the social situation and Nuzhat Katsav recommended the public be called out to demonstrate against cuts in allocations for the poor. Both were then co-opted into a "struggle team" which was told to prepare what Histadrut spokesman Shmuel Soler called "the action" against harming the welfare services.

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GIZELA EDELMAN deceased

Sale of Apartment

The administrators of the estate of Gizela Edelman invite bids for the acquisition of the rights detailed below, in a two room flat (with kitchen and bathroom) situated on the third floor of a house known as the Journalists' House, Talbich, 4 Rehov Oliphant, Jerusalem.

The rights are as follows:
A sublease granted by Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael, the lessee of the Greek Orthodox Patriarch. The house and the rights are registered at the Land Registry — Block 30021, Parcel 92, Jerusalem, Talbich Quarter Book, Vol. 96, p. 28.
The flat is furnished and equipped. Bids are also invited for the furniture and contents.

The flat can be viewed by arrangement with Z. Henig Adv., Tel. 02-653480, 7 Rehov Ramban, Jerusalem.

Bids must give the price and payment terms offered. No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any bid. Any contract will be subject to the approval of the Jerusalem District Court. Bids must be submitted to the undersigned by January 10, 1984, at the address: Z. Henig and A. Nantel Lawyers, Administrators of the Estate of Gizela Edelman, 7 Rehov Ramban, Jerusalem.

A. Nantel Adv.

Administrators of the Estate of the late Gizela Edelman

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Much ado about what?

ISRAELI public expenditures must be cut, drastically and without delay, or the country will tumble straight into economic disaster.

This dire warning was sounded repeatedly last week not by the leaders of the opposition, who might naturally be disposed to take a sombre view of things, but by official spokesmen of the Likud whose unenviable task it is to contend with the consequences of their own profligate policies.

The finance minister, Yigal Cohen-Orad, appearing on television, suggested that unless the budget were slashed, immediately and significantly, the country would soon lack the money with which to purchase fuel and raw materials abroad. "We have no choice but to cut in all areas, including the most essential," said Mr. Cohen-Orad, referring specifically to the armed services and to settlement in Judea and Samaria.

The Treasury's new director-general, Emanuel Sharon, speaking on radio, served notice that unless preventive action were taken soon, Israel would find itself unable to obtain foreign loans and pay interest on them.

Friday morning cabinet ministers were told by the governor of the central bank, Moshe Mandelbaum, that the cuts proposed by the finance minister represented the barest minimum necessary at this time. If these were not approved, all hell might break loose.

Yesterday the cabinet formally endorsed Mr. Cohen-Orad's "economic framework" for the fiscal year 1984/5. But in fact it clipped the finance minister's wings. What emerged is that the cabinet is prepared to do less than the barest minimum. The one billion shekels originally portrayed by the finance minister, in a fine public relations exercise, as the target for his axe, have been scaled down to 600 million. It was only around this much smaller figure that a cabinet consensus shaped up.

Yet even such cuts as Mr. Cohen-Orad successfully insisted upon, will not result in a lower budget compared with the current one. The reductions envisaged are to apply not to government operations already in the pipeline but to future planned operations. To make sure that the various ministries will not be drained, Mr. Cohen-Orad was directed to submit his specific budget proposals for the departments to committee.

In addition, Deputy Premier David Levy, anxious about the political implications of any Treasury-authored recession scheme, compelled the Finance Minister to initiate immediate talks with the Histadrut for a "package deal." This will also eclipse Cohen-Orad's brave gestures of last week.

And, of course, all talk of freezing settlement was promptly squelched by the Prime Minister who said he would then resign his post.

It is difficult to see, therefore, what is left of the intentions to pare the levels of national expenditure. There will be some cutbacks in government operations, but this may be more than matched by money that will be pumped back into the economy by the public's loans that come due, which the government will have to pay back in the coming year. The Treasury hopes these loans — in savings schemes and indexed bonds — will again be turned over into more loans by the public. But given the prevailing climate, all that money may well go into consumption. Consequently, the Treasury will have no choice but to print even more money to cover its expenditures.

In sum, what the government seems to be gearing to deliver to the country is a double-barrelled treatment of even greater inflation, with recession and stagnation.

Rumble in Africa

THE MILITARY takeover in Nigeria over the weekend has raised, with renewed forcefulness, the issue of the relationship between democracy and poverty.

The social reconstruction of Nigeria, Africa's most populous and potentially richest country, was facilitated after the civil war of the late 1960s by massive revenues from new-found oil wealth. During the 1970s the military rulers encouraged investment in large-scale development projects. Foreign contractors, including many Israeli firms, were attracted by the opportunities offered by the new Nigerian market, and contributed to the country's economic transformation.

These economic and social gains made possible a smooth transition to civilian rule in 1979.

The leaders of the Second Republic had, however, to confront rising expectations in worsening circumstances. Dwindling oil profits were largely responsible for the reduction of national income by 60 per cent during the past two years alone. Food grew scarce, inflation soared and the foreign debt skyrocketed as the Nigerian government was desperately seeking to renegotiate several billion dollars in short-term loans about to fall due in early 1984.

Social tensions, easily aroused in a country as deeply divided ethnically as Nigeria, flared up due to growing income inequality exacerbated by the lax management of President Shugu Shagari's regime. The recent elections, rife with corruption, fraud and violence, added fuel to an already volatile situation.

The new Federal Military Government no doubt hopes to introduce a measure of efficiency into the chaotic Nigerian economy. But if the soldiers-turned-rulers seriously intend to restore order and maintain the flow of foreign investments, they cannot afford to ignore the strong liberal tradition and the concern for judicial process that have evolved in Nigeria over the years.

Nigeria severed relations with Israel back in 1973, along with most of the other African countries, and it is still to reinstate them. Yet this country, with many, and growing, interests in Nigeria, will watch with sympathy, and with anxiety, that great African land's struggle to reconcile economic development with potential freedom.

RECENTLY ONE HEARS people deciphering the situation in the occupied areas — and on the Palestinian front — from some overheard remark or from a dramatic visit between Arab leaders. How people do look for signs and wonders, which mean nothing when the ever-present reality limits all parties concerned with apparently insurmountable handicaps.

Those who commented on Yasser Arafat's recent visit to Cairo interpreted his meeting with Hosni Mubarak as some sort of radical shift in the conventional PLO stand towards a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the Palestinian issue. American observers see in the visit a sidelong movement towards Palestinian acceptance of the Reagan Plan and towards Egyptian-Saudi-Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation. Naturally, other observers see Arafat's visit to Cairo as a flagrant violation of binding Palestinian resolutions, and they have called for the resignation of the PLO chairman. Any discussion of this visit turns into some sort of survey of those who support Arafat or those who oppose him. But the wrong assumptions have been made, and, consequently, wrong conclusions reached.

Arafat is no Arab potentate who can act singly and unilaterally as Arab heads of state do. Those who think he is, hurt his cause by burdening him and his supporters with unachievable expectations.

If Arafat wants to make a dramatic shift in his policies, he must free himself and his supporters from the charters, resolutions and binding statements that limit and, in fact, fetter him.

The Palestine National Council met in February 1983, and formulated the following resolution on PLO relations with the Arab states, which explicitly states "rejection of all other plans pertaining to the right of the PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians by the use of such for-

mula as 'mandate,' or 'deputization,' or 'partnership in right of representation'."

As for relations with Jordan, the PNC confirmed "the special relationship that links the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and the necessity to develop these relations for the sake of achieving the permanent national rights of the Palestinians including the right of return, of self-determination and of establishing an independent Palestinian state." The relationship with Jordan should be founded, the PNC noted, "on the fact that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied areas. The PNC envisages the future relationship with Jordan on a confederal basis between two independent states."

On relations with Egypt, the PNC reaffirmed its rejection of the Camp David agreements, and all plans linked with them, such as "autonomy" or "civil administration." It also called on the Executive Committee of the PLO to develop relations with "democratic and popular Egyptian forces that struggle against 'normalization' of relations with the Zionist enemy."

Relations with the Egyptian regime should correspond to "its abandonment of the Camp David policy."

Finally, the PNC declared that it rejected the Reagan Plan, which "does not respond positively to the inalienable Palestinian national rights, because it does not respect

Signs and wonders

By JAMIL HAMAD

the right of return, of self-determination, the establishing of an independent Palestinian state, and it ignores the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Any consensus of support in the West Bank and Gaza is now, and would in future be, meaningless both to Arafat's future and to that of the occupied areas. At best, West Bank and Gaza support of Arafat is a tricky question. For one thing, the 16 local PNC members are not permitted to be party to the shaping of PLO policy. While Israel forbids them to leave the territories for PNC meetings, they are not invited by the PNC to present opinions or suggestions by proxy, or to send comment on local response. Secondly, these local PNC members are not elected representatives. They are all appointed. In fact, their role in any faction is utterly irrelevant.

At the grassroots level, it is clear that the split in the PLO is reflected in the West Bank. True, Arafat holds the support of those who still advocate a political resolution to the Palestinian problem, but that support is dependent on the chairman's fate. If Arafat cannot

cured, and the people with latent anti-Semitism would have had serious psychological problems if they had not been saved by Zionism. The State of Israel came along just at the right time to allow anti-Semitism to come back into the open again, disguised as legitimate concern for the poor Palestinians.

These anti-Semites naturally gravitate into the circle of Americans who have contact with the Arabs. They become Arabists at universities, take sabbaticals in Arab countries, and work for oil companies or other commercial and industrial firms dealing with the Arab world. This, he says regretfully, hurts the Arabs more than it hurts the Jews. These people give the Arabs a very distorted picture of the U.S. The Arabs believe them and do not face their problems realistically.

IT IS VERY easy, he continued, to pick out these anti-Semites among the friends of the Arabs, because they all show an intense hatred for Sadat. Why should any American hate Sadat? Even if they disapprove strongly of the Camp David initiative, there is no rational excuse for such hatred.

You can't blame anyone for disliking Jews, he added. Most people dislike some ethnic group and may repeat anti-Polish, anti-Mexican or anti-Jewish jokes without any deep hatred. An anti-Semite, as the joke goes, is someone who hates the Jews "more than is absolutely necessary." And these days, any American who hates Sadat more than is absolutely necessary is obviously an anti-Semite. After all, Sadat tried to achieve a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli

problem. If there is real peace, there will no longer be a legitimate cause to hide anti-Semitism. Sadat is therefore the devil who strikes at their innermost psyche.

But he did not think that anti-Semitism in the State Department influences America's Middle East policy. The Arabists in the State Department are not anti-Semites, he said, they are simply scared to death of the Saudis. This is stupid because the proper way to deal with the Saudis is to stand up to them. Alexander Haig had the right idea about the Middle East. Firing him was a great mistake and an invitation to Arafat to make trouble in Beirut. But now the U.S. seems to be coming round to a proper understanding of the real problems.

He himself is very sympathetic to the Arab cause, and feels that the Arabs have lost a great deal by being stupid and unrealistic. His policy for the Arabs is very simple. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia should invite Prime Minister Shamir to a meeting, give him a map and a green pen, and tell him to draw a line on the map where he wants the boundaries of Israel to be. Fahd should then take a red pen and draw a line on the map giving Israel even more than Shamir asked for. He should then say: "We will give you this. But you must agree to peace and no more expansion into Arab territory." If the Arabs had done this in 1948 instead of embarking on all these crazy military adventures, the Arab world would be much better off today. And if they do not do this soon, they will lose even more.

Listening to yordim from the Arab world can be a very interesting experience.

Perhaps a year, two years ago, he could have imposed new policies or shaped new formulas. Not now. The key question to Arafat's survival is whether he can make a dramatic, new start in spite of these constitutional limitations; such a start — a radical jump over the wall — would decide his future. He will have to dissociate himself from those limitations if he intends to work out an alliance with Mubarak and/or Hussein.

A less desirable alternative would be to simply hand over to Hussein a mandate — representing him and his supporters — to negotiate for a resolution to the Palestinian issue without any formal Palestinian participation.

In short, the process that observers are anticipating is a very complicated and frustrating one. It is also, I might add, an improbable one. The leader of "liberation" is shackled by a ball and chain. Only wishful thinking can dispose of that ball and chain at present. And the Americans have talked themselves into believing that Arafat is about to leap over the wall and move, on his own, towards the Reagan Plan.

The Israelis have also, interestingly enough, convinced themselves of the same thing: they are denouncing Arafat's "signs and wonders" as violently as any Arab state. What are they afraid of?

Sign and wonders are usually illusion, a magician's sleight of hand. To believe they are real is to misunderstand the trick. As apt a media magician as Yasser Arafat knows how to conjure and bewitch his public. And seasoned sorcerer-watchers should know better than to believe in magic.

The writer is a Palestinian journalist.

Brief encounters

By HARRY J. LIPKIN

fight against the Russians, and eventually they will win. The Syrians are tools of the Russians. They want to take over Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, anything that they can get. Only Israel is standing up to them.

When I suggested that maybe the Americans might now join in to help stop the Russians, he rejected this completely. He considered the Americans to be completely useless. They get all excited when one or two U.S. Marines are hurt. Thousands of people are being slaughtered every day in Afghanistan, and they don't even want to know about it.

I GOT A different perspective on the American double standard for Middle East slaughter from a Lebanese Christian. All his Jewish friends kept asking him why the Christian world did nothing while their fellow Christians were being massacred in Lebanon, and suddenly woke up when the Israelis moved in and actually saved the Christians.

The answer was very simple. All the Christians in the West are Ashkenazim; they don't consider these Orientals to be real Christians at all. You don't have to be Jewish to have a gap between Ashkenazim and Orientals. If anything, he says, the Christians have it worse. He went through a "mixed marriage" with an American Christian and has seen the prejudices at first hand.

He then gave a fascinating lecture on anti-Semitism in the U.S. He has the kind of experience that no Jew can have, because he is not Jewish but everybody thinks he is. He looks so Jewish to the average American guy that airline stewardesses immediately offer him kosher food. When people whom he meets casually seem to be abnormally cool or unfriendly, he suspects anti-Semitism.

Jews, he said, can't do anything about this situation. There is no way to prove that the behaviour is due to anti-Semitism; these people might have upset stomachs, or have just had a fight with their spouses, or treat everybody this way.

But he has a sure-fire test for anti-Semitism. After letting this kind of behaviour go on for a while, he conveniently leaks the information that he is not a Jew at all, but an Arab. If the other person immediately changes drastically and becomes warm and solicitous, he knows he is dealing with an anti-Semite.

And now he has a further test. After a period of warmth, he confesses that he is a Lebanese Christian Arab. Immediately the coolness returns as he is classified as one of those terrible people who are helping the Israelis slaughter the Palestinians.

Hitler, he said, made anti-Semitism no longer respectable and drove it underground. But this deeply rooted disease was not

READERS' LETTERS

STOPPING IMMIGRATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Harold Rosenthal's letter "Harder for those already here," The Jerusalem Post December 22, recommending the cessation of aliyah, should not be left without a rebuttal.

When I first arrived in this country in 1926 there were few Jews here (Tel Aviv had a population of 40,000) and the unemployment situation was infinitely worse than it is now. Following Rosenthal's logic aliyah should have been stopped right then.

Israel is a country with very few natural resources and its main resource is Jewish manpower and Jewish manpower. The more this resource is "imported," the richer the country becomes. The nearly miraculous development of this country, the growth of its agriculture, industry, science, culture, arts and military prowess is entirely due to the above mentioned resources.

Even if we are now going through a temporary crisis (although even now the unemployment here is much less severe than in England, the United States and many other countries), this should not detract us from the long view and

the wide historic perspective clearly indicating that aliyah is the lifeblood of Israel, not to speak of its general vital significance for the Jewish people.

Incidentally, Mr. Rosenthal contradicts himself when speaking about people in the Jewish Agency and the Absorption Ministry. "I'm sure jobs can be found for these people in the productive industries." Apparently, jobs are still available, so if Mr. Rosenthal is laid off, as he fears, he can follow the advice he gave to the Jewish Agency people.

Netanya. JACOB ROSIN

TORA FROM WASHINGTON

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I agree with the sentiment Hilda Kaplin voices in her letter to The Jerusalem Post, of December 23 — to wit, the message of the Tora should be the basis of our behaviour, guidelines and goals and not the decadent lifestyles and materialism of the modern western civilization. It is the geography of this letter that saddens me because it was written in Washington, D.C. and not from Israel.

Tel Aviv. DAVID HEIMOWITZ

ISRAEL-EGYPT RELATIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — During the lengthy negotiations between Egypt and Israel following President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, many Israelis demanded that "peace should be given a chance."

Others, less optimistic and more realistic, claimed that it was too dangerous to gamble with the nation's security. Some predicted that once Israel surrendered Sinai, Egypt would ignore the peace treaty.

Today, several years later, we are all cleverer. One must be entirely blind to disregard the fact that the Egyptians are really not interested in true, genuine peace relations between our countries and that Israel's hopes have been sabotaged. They wanted Sinai and got it and the peace treaty remains an empty shell.

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POSTSCRIPTS

A BILL requiring all public elementary and high schools in the U.S. that apply for Federal education funds to provide "equal access" for pupils to engage in religious activities on school premises is being opposed by the American Jewish Committee. The AJC submitted its opinion to a House of Representatives committee recently, calling the proposed law "singularly objectionable."

Especially in elementary schools, it is unlikely that youngsters would initiate religious extra-curricular ac-

tivities, says the AJC. Any prayer meetings or religious discussions that would take place in the elementary schools almost certainly would occur at the behest of teachers or parents. But this violates the Constitution, since school personnel, as agents of government, are forbidden to sponsor or promote religious activities in public schools. Thus, activities in public schools, strict neutrality says the AJC, regarding religious observance must be the school's position. American Jewish groups have long opposed the lightings of Christmas trees and the like in U.S. public schools. J.S.J.

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